

**BUSINESS MEETING**

November 18, 2024

The Business Meeting of the Stafford Township Board of Education was held on November 18, 2024 at 7:04pm at the Stafford Township Arts Center (STAC) and was live streamed over the web.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Stafford Township Board of Education is called to order in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act Law - 1975 Chapter 231 (P.L. 1975-231C). This meeting was advertised in the Atlantic City Press. Notice has been posted in the office of the Stafford Township Clerk, all school buildings and on the district website. A mechanical device is being used to video record this meeting.

**ROLL CALL**

Brian Fenlon	Member
Gregory Gioe	Member
Robert Morello	Member
Matthew Regulski	Member
Christopher Smith	Member
Bonnie Strouse	Member
Joseph Washco	Member
Kevin Cooney	Vice President
Tammy Wagner	President

**ALSO PRESENT**

George J. Chidiac	Superintendent (Absent)
Lourdes LaGuardia	Business Administrator/Board of Education Secretary
Martin J. Buckley, Esq.	Board of Education Attorney

**FLAG SALUTE**

The Board President asked for a moment of silence for a former long time staff member, as well as a former board member, Richard Czajkowski who recently passed away. Thoughts and prayers are with his family at this time.

The Board President asked for a moment of silence for a current staff member, Bailey Bellissimo who passed away suddenly. Thoughts and prayers are with his family at this difficult time.

**CLOSED SESSION – Personnel Matters**

Whereas Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting under certain circumstances; and

Whereas, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Stafford Township Board of Education, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, as follows:

The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action of the hereinafter specified subject matters.

The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

Personnel Matters

It is anticipated at this time that the above-stated subject matters shall be made public at such time as the reasons for non-disclosure no longer exists.

A motion was made by Dr. Regulski and seconded by Mr. Morello to move on the above Resolution. Voice vote: All members present voted yes (9-0); motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Washco and seconded by Dr. Regulski to exit closed session. Voice vote: All members present voted yes (9-0); motion passed.

TIME IN: 7:09pm

TIME AT CONCLUSION OF CLOSED SESSION: 7:20pm

The Board President, Mrs. Wagner read the following statement:

The Stafford Board of Education thanks you all for attending this evening. As a BOE we have worked diligently alongside our Superintendent to provide exceptional learning opportunities for our children. Rest assured; it is the intent of the Board to provide your children with a seamless educational experience.

I am sure you have noticed that Mr. Chidiac is absent from the meeting. In an effort to not be a distraction within the District, Mr. Chidiac has informed the Board and County Superintendent that he will be taking a temporary leave of absence effective immediately.

Additionally, after careful consideration, and discussion with Board Members, Mr. Chidiac's contract negotiation has been removed from the agenda, and the Board will not be revisiting it. Therefore, the current terms of his contract remain in effect.

As such, I will be seeking, as a walk on item on the agenda, a Motion from the Board to Approve Stephanie Bush in a dual role as Director of Curriculum, Instruction, & Planning and Acting Superintendent of Schools, effective immediately.

At this point, I will read the first of those Motions.

**Motion #1** - I need a Motion to Approve a temporary leave of absence of George J. Chidiac, Superintendent of Schools, pursuant to his contract, effective November 18, 2024, until further notice.

A motion was made by Mr. Morello and seconded by Mr. Fenlon to approve Motion #1. Roll call vote: eight (8) members present voted yes; motion passed. Mr. Gioe abstained on Motion #1.

**Motion #2** - I need a Motion to Approve the Appointment of Stephanie Bush for her dual role of Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Planning and Acting Superintendent of Schools effective immediately, and until further notice, pending approval from the county.

A motion was made by Dr. Regulski and seconded by Mr. Cooney to approve Motion #2. Roll call vote: eight (8) members present voted yes; motion passed. Mr. Gioe abstained on Motion #2.

At this time the Board President asked Mrs. Bush to come up.

**A. RECOGNITION/PRESENTATIONS**

~Oxycocus Staff Recognition

- Mr. Meyer recognized two Oxycocus staff members, Marie Shimonis and Mary Curtin, for their brave actions and whose quick thinking and heroic actions may have saved a student's life. Back on October 22nd, one of our preschool students began choking on a cheese ball while eating in class. Right away, the teacher tried to do back slaps as an appropriate method of dislodging the food. When this method did not immediately work, the teacher assistant ran down the hall to retrieve the Lifevac and brought it back to use on the student. After two attempts, the food was successfully dislodged and the student was thankfully ok. If it were not for their swift actions, and the school having a Lifevac nearby, who knows what could have happened. Thank you for your constant caring and dedication to keeping your students safe.

~PLC Student/Staff Recognition

- Ms. Reo explained MARE - which stands for (Marine Activities, Resources, and Education) and is a great initiative to engage students with the ocean's ecosystems while combining multiple disciplines like literature, math, science, and hands-on learning. Ms. Reo recognized/honored Mrs. Callahan and Mrs. Sinatra for bringing MARE back to the PLC - each of them planned a schoolwide day of events, celebrating students' learning about our ocean waters and sea life. It was a great way to make the learning experience more interactive and memorable for all of our students. Ms. Reo also honored the students who participated in this school wide event.

## ~Transportation Recognition

- Mr. Press recognized one of our new drivers, Cynthia Salmons, as on Halloween morning she saw a young man lying in the street. She pulled up and called out to him and asked if he was OK. He rolled over and gave her the "thumbs up". Still concerned, she pulled over and called the police. After her next stop she saw a patrol car already assisting the young man. The mother of the boy found out it was a bus driver and thanked her on Facebook. Apparently, he was having a seizure and she was so grateful someone took the time to help another person rather than just driving by.

There was a short break for anyone wanting to leave.

**B. SUPERINTENDENT'S EDUCATIONAL REPORT - Attachment**

Mrs. Bush, Acting Superintendent shared the following highlights from each building.

**STAC Events**

- Foreign Journey 11/23/24 @ 7:30pm
- It's a Shore Holiday 12/1/24 @ 3:00pm

Please go to our website [www.stacnj.com](http://www.stacnj.com) for tickets.

**Oxycocus** – Had a fun filled month. Lessons and activities focused around fall, trees and Halloween. The students enjoyed the Halloween Parade that was well attended by families. Halloween festivities followed the parade including snacks, crafts and games. Blake the Therapy Dog came to visit Oxycocus several times during October. October was also a healthy month for our students. The nurse screened all students for vision, hearing, height, weight and dental promoted healthy choices.

**PLC** - The month of October is known for teaching RESPECT – During the week of October 7th – students and staff wore blue/gold, favorite sweatshirts and jerseys to support & show respect! Kelsey Schmidt, our guidance counselor, read "The One" to discuss what respect means and what it means to be an Upstander! During the week of October 28<sup>th</sup> Officer Vincent visited our classes to review Halloween Safety, including the importance of having parents/guardians check all treats before eating! We ended October with a Halloween day of parades/celebrations!

**Ocean Acres** - October was filled with exciting activities for the students at Ocean Acres! On October 1st we kicked off the month with a Lead U assembly thanks to the PTO. On October 2nd students celebrated Harper Day by wearing yellow and discussing what it means to be helpful. Teachers started choosing students who exemplified the character trait of Helpfulness to wear a special Harper lanyard. On October 10th and 15th the first graders went on a field trip to

Holgate. The students were met by ALO, the Refuge volunteers and the Girl Scouts to learn all about the beach habitat. The second graders took a trip to the Cape May Zoo on October 17th and had an amazing time! We are so thankful to Jetty for funding these trips through the Gear for Grades initiative. We wrapped up the month with Halloween parties and a parade attended by many families and friends.

**McKinley** - Make a Difference Day festivities took place during the middle of the month beginning with our annual MADD Kick-Off Assembly. During the assembly, students were told the name of the charity that they will be fundraising for. This year's charity was The Compassion Café located on Long Beach Island. The Compassion Café is a non-profit organization in Southern Ocean County, founded to provide employment and job training for adolescents and adults with disabilities. The Compassion Café offers hands-on training and employment by providing meaningful, paid employment for teens and adults with special needs. The employees gain independence, self-confidence, and work skills for a successful future. At our Make A Difference Day finale, a symbolic check was presented to the Board and staff of The Compassion Café for over \$20,198.00! Way to go McKinley Mustangs!!!

**Intermediate** - October was a fun month at Intermediate. We began with the Which Witch Will Win team challenge followed by the Lead U Assembly. Students earned team points by participating in the district wide spirit days for the Week of Respect and Violence & Vandalism Week. Thank you to families for your support of our Food Drive and Sock-tober Drive. The month rounded out with the final production of School House Rock Jr put on by the 4th and 5th grade students. We welcomed the veterans on October 30th for the yearly Veteran's Assembly. Boy were there some funny costumes in the Halloween Parade to end the month!

**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)**

\*NOTE: If a board member was absent (listed below), they are to abstain from the vote on that item/meeting.

To approve the minutes of the following meeting(s):

1. October 14, 2024 Committee of the Whole – 2 absences (B. Fenlon, R. Morello)
2. October 14, 2024 Business Meeting – 2 absences (B. Fenlon, R. Morello)
3. October 14, 2024 Closed Session – 2 absences (B. Fenlon, R. Morello)

A motion was made by Mr. Washco and seconded by Mr. Morello to approve Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s) #1-3. Roll call vote: seven (7) members present voted yes; motion passed. Mr. Fenlon and Mr. Morello abstained on items #1-3.

**D. COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)**

The Board Attorney read the following statement and reiterated the one-to-three-minute timeframe per policy.

School boards are required to set aside a portion of every meeting for public comments. School boards use the public comment period as an opportunity to listen to community concerns - not to debate issues or enter into a question-and-answer session. School boards are not required to respond to questions but may choose to respond to public comments by seeking additional information or delegating authority to the superintendent or a designee to investigate an issue brought forth during public comment.

While public education can be an emotional issue, the school board strives to maintain a certain level of decorum at its meeting. As such, all persons speaking during the public comment period should maintain a tone of respect and civility. Courteous behavior is extremely important by all members and attendees.

To allow all speakers to address their comments to the board, it may be necessary for the board and/or administration to hold any responses until after the conclusion of the public comment period; rather than respond to individual speakers. The board cannot recognize proxies, nor will the board tolerate persons that call out, shout down or disrupt others in attendance during public comment; any person who cannot abide by this will be asked to leave.

The Stafford Township Board of Education recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on school matters of community interest, especially when it is intended to assist the Board of Education.

Please feel free to speak to the Board during the public session. Pursuant to Board Policy 0167, comments and discussion will be limited to one three (3) minute period per individual unless requested by the chairperson to continue on a point of clarification.

Public comment at special meetings of the Board shall be related to the call of the meeting. In accordance with the Board of Education Policy, each participant must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface their comments by an announcement of their name, address and group affiliation, if applicable.

Your anticipated courtesy to the members of the public and the Board is appreciated.

For additional information, please review the "Guide to Board of Education Meetings in New Jersey" available on the New Jersey Boards Association website at [www.njsba.org](http://www.njsba.org).

None

**E. CORRESPONDENCE TO AND FROM THE BOARD**

None

**F. BOARD BUSINESS**

1. There were no incidents of harassment, intimidation, and bullying.
2. To approve the first and only reading of the attached REVISED handbooks/manuals:

- a. Non-Affiliated Employee Handbook
  
- 3. To approve attached Sidebar Agreement between the Stafford Township Administrator’s Association (STAA) and the Stafford Township Board of Education dated November 18, 2024.

A motion was made by Dr. Regulski and seconded by Mr. Cooney to approve Board Business item(s) #1-3. Roll call vote: nine (9) members present voted yes; motion passed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**G. FINANCE/INSURANCE/TRANSPORTATION**

The Committee of the Whole has reviewed the following action items, has consulted with the superintendent, school business administrator/board secretary and other appropriate district officials, and hereby certifies that the actions being approved are consistent with the 2024-2025 board/district goals. In addition, we further certify that we have reviewed the attached bill list and are satisfied that curriculum related expenditures are directly related to the results of assessment data and that professional development expenditures are directly related to professional development plans.

- 1. To approve for payment of November 2024 bills list totaling \$1,426,420.25 as attached. (G-1)

- Fund 10 - \$934,048.90
- Fund 20 - \$242,311.66
- Fund 30 - \$157,186
- Fund 40 - \$0
- Fund 60 - \$78,614.51
- Fund 61 - \$0
- Fund 62 - \$14,259.18

\*Note - \$585,850.35 of the amounts listed were made as EFT payments. (G-1a)

\*To approve for payment of October 2024 additional bills list totaling \$805,662.33 as attached. (G-1b)

- Fund 10 - \$801,728.68
- Fund 20 - \$645
- Fund 30 - \$0
- Fund 40 - \$0
- Fund 60 - \$0
- Fund 61 - \$2,710.62

Fund 62 - \$197.03

\*Note - \$363,754.62 of the amounts listed were made as EFT payments. (G-1c)

2. To approve for payment of payroll
  - a. dated October 15, 2024 totaling \$1,518,831.94
  - b. dated October 30, 2024 totaling \$1,561,132.04
3. To accept the Treasurer's Report for the month of September 2024.
4. To accept the Secretary's Report for the month of September 2024.
5. Certification of Overexpenditures:

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c)3, I, Lourdes LaGuardia, Board of Education Secretary, certify that as of September 2024 no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(a).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Board of Education Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Board Resolution:

Through the adoption of this resolution, we, the Stafford Township Board of Education, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c)4, certify that as of September 2024 after review of the secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the business administrator and other appropriate district officials, that no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(b)4 I-VI and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

6. To approve the attached line item transfers for September 2024.
7. To authorize the Business Administrator to make payment of post-Board meeting bills for the month of November 2024 and to execute mid-cycle contracts such as utilities and out-of-district contracts. Specifics of these transactions, if any, will be provided for ratification at the next regular scheduled board meeting.
8. To approve the attached list of donations.



- 9. To approve Silvergate Prep to provide 10 hours of homebound instruction per week to student #25172 while in the hospital at a rate of \$50/hour commencing October 1, 2024.
- 10. To approve the contract with Bayada Nursing Services for student #24712 in the amount of \$65/hr RN, \$55/hr LPN for the 2024-2025 school year. This student requires one to one nursing services.
- 11. To approve the contract with Bayada Nursing Services for student #24280 in the amount of \$65/hr RN, \$55/hr LPN for the 2024-2025 school year. This student requires one to one nursing services for up to three hours per day.
- 12. To approve the contract with Bayada Nursing Services for student #23052 in the amount of \$65/hr RN, \$55/hr LPN for the 2024-2025 school year. This student requires one to one nursing services.
- 13. To approve the attached School Bus Emergency Evacuation Drill Reports for the Intermediate, McKinley, Ocean Acres, Primary Learning Center and Oxycocus schools that took place on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

A motion was made by Dr. Regulski and seconded by Mr. Washco to approve Finance/Insurance/Transportation item(s) #1-13. Roll call vote item #1: nine (9) members present voted yes; motion passed. Roll call vote item #2: eight (8) members present voted yes; motion passed. Mr. Gioe abstained on item #2. Roll call vote items #3-13: nine (9) members present voted yes; motion passed.

**H. BUILDINGS/GROUNDS/CAFETERIA**

The Buildings/Grounds/Cafeteria Committee has reviewed the following action items, has consulted with the school business administrator/board secretary and other appropriate district officials, and hereby certifies that the actions being approved are consistent with the 2024-2025 board/district goals.

- 1. To approve the disposal of a Crown Audio CDi 6000 (Serial #8500673444) and a Crown Audio CDi 2000 (Serial #8501528232) to be sold on Gov Deals or to the Recycling Center. Both items are located in STAC and are outdated/non-functioning.
- 2. To approve the disposal of the following buses:

Bus	Asset Tag #
Chevrolet Mini Bus 133	234
Chevrolet Mini Bus 134	235

The buses will be properly disposed of – sold on GovDeals.org or recycling center.

A motion was made by Dr. Regulski and seconded by Mr. Gioe to approve Buildings/Grounds/Cafeteria item(s) #1-2. Roll call vote: nine (9) members present voted yes; motion passed.

**I. CURRICULUM/INSTRUCTION/TECHNOLOGY**

The Committee of the Whole has reviewed the following action items, has consulted with the superintendent and other appropriate district officials, and hereby certifies that the actions being approved are consistent with the 2024-2025 board/district goals. In addition, we further certify that we have reviewed the attached professional development request list and are satisfied that each professional development event is directly related to the employee’s duties, each event is fiscally prudent (consistent with N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12), that teaching staff requests are aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards, and that administrator requests are aligned to the Professional Standards for School Leaders.

1. To approve the professional development requests shown on the attached listing.

A motion was made by Mr. Morello and seconded by Mr. Washco to approve Curriculum/Instruction/Technology item(s) #1. Roll call vote: nine (9) members present voted yes; motion passed.

**J. PERSONNEL**

The following Personnel items were discussed:

Chairperson of the Personnel Committee – Tammy Wagner

Report: The superintendent recommends the board approve/ratify the appointment of the following named individuals who constitute a careful selection and screening of applicants, in accordance with the board/district hiring policies/procedures, and are hereby recommended for an employment contract contingent upon the successful completion of their accredited degree program, New Jersey Department of Education certification requirements, Federal NCLB Highly qualified Teacher requirements, a criminal history clearance and the successful completion of a medical examination as required by the board of education. These initial assignments/appointments may be changed as district needs develop unless otherwise stipulated. The Personnel/Policy Committee has reviewed the following action items, has consulted with the superintendent and other appropriate district officials, and hereby certifies that the actions being approved are consistent with the 2024-2025 board/district goals.

1. To approve the attached list of substitutes for the 2024-2025 school year.
2. To approve the change of assignment for the attached list of personnel for the 2024-2025 school year.
3. To approve the transfers for the attached list of personnel for the 2024-2025 school year.
4. To approve the following resignations:
  - a. Kathleen Petruzzella, Cafeteria Playground Aide, effective October 23, 2024
  - b. Elizabeth Recker, Teacher Aide, effective October 25, 2024
  - c. Samantha Piterski, Teacher Aide, effective November 1, 2024
5. To approve the following retirements:
  - a. Lynn Norman, Teacher Aide, effective July 1, 2025
  - b. James Blomquist, Teacher, effective July 1, 2025
  - c. Dena O'Brien, Teacher Aide, effective July 1, 2025
  - d. Susan Cassaro, Teacher Aide, effective July 1, 2025
6. To approve the following leaves:
  - a. Employee ID #6063, unpaid family leave FMLA, beginning October 10, 2024 and returning October 28, 2024
  - b. Employee ID #6634, unpaid family leave FMLA, beginning October 16, 2024 and returning October 28, 2024
  - c. Employee ID #6175, unpaid family leave FMLA, beginning January 27, 2025 and returning April 17, 2025
  - d. Employee ID #6785, unpaid leave of absence, beginning September 16, 2024 and returning September 23, 2024
  - e. Employee ID #6663, unpaid family leave extension FMLA, beginning October 25, 2024 and returning November 26, 2024
7. To approve the attached revised job descriptions:
  - a. G-3 Teacher Aide
  - b. G-10 Registered Behavior Technician
8. To approve following personnel for Extra-Curricular and Enrichment Programs for the 2024-2025 school year:
  - a. Summer Gigerian – Assistant Music Show Advisor
9. To approve Marcella Aboyoun for extra-curricular and enrichment programs for the 2024-2025 school year, beginning November 2024.
10. To approve Jessica DeFilippo as a Mentor for Novice Teachers for the 2024-2025 school year.

11. To approve Samantha Brummer as additional staff for the Extended Day Program for the 2024-2025 school year.
12. To approve Thomas Bamber as an after-school Detention Monitor for the 2024-2025 school year.
13. To approve the attached list of student fieldwork placements for the 2024-2025 school year.
14. To approve Lidia Fastnacht as Elementary School Teacher, Grade 5, Intermediate School, beginning October 16, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 6, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a non-tenure track leave replacement position.
15. To approve Lucinda Dunfee as Cafeteria Playground Aide, Ocean Acres Elementary School, beginning November 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 1, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
16. To approve Jill Gialanella as Cafeteria Playground Aide, Ocean Acres Elementary School, beginning November 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 1, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
17. To approve Susan Townsend as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, LLD Class, Ocean Acres Elementary School, beginning November 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 2, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
18. To approve Courtney Jackson as Behaviorist, PreK-Grade 2, Oxycocus Elementary School, Ocean Acres Elementary School and the Ronald L. Meinders Primary Learning Center, beginning October 16, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 6, +MA, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement.
19. To approve Daniel Kilgallon as Behaviorist, Grades 1 & 2, Ocean Acres Elementary School, beginning November 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 19, +MA+30, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement.
20. To approve Kayla Reinhardt as Registered Behavior Technician, Ocean Acres Elementary School, beginning October 16, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 17, +BA, +BT, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement.

- 21. To approve Jesse Kundrat as Registered Behavior Technician, McKinley Avenue Elementary School, beginning October 16, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 17, +90 College Credits, +BT, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement.
- 22. To approve Samantha Richter as Registered Behavior Technician, McKinley Avenue Elementary School, beginning November 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 17, +BA, +BT, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement.
- 23. To approve Tyler Osborne-Lomax as Registered Behavior Technician, Ocean Acres Elementary School, beginning November 16, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 17, +BA, +BT, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement.
- 24. To approve Alexis Leddy as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, MD Class, Ronald L. Meinders Primary Learning Center, beginning November 16, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 1, +BA, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement.

***Employee appointments are provisional pending satisfactory completion of the Criminal History Background Check, Pre-employment P.L. 2018,C.5 Disclosure and Physical Exam Requirements required by the State of New Jersey.***

A motion was made by Dr. Regulski and seconded by Mr. Smith to approve Personnel item(s) #1-24. Roll call vote: nine (9) members present voted yes; motion passed.

**K. POLICY/LEGISLATIVE**

The Committee of the Whole has reviewed the following policies and regulations, has consulted with the board attorney and other appropriate district officials, and hereby certify, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-1, that the attached policies and regulations are in compliance with all applicable statutes and administrative code provisions and are consistent with the 2024-2025 board/district goals.

NO ACTION ITEMS

**L. ADVANCED PLANNING**

None

**M. PUBLIC COMMENT**

The Board Attorney reiterated the Public Comment Statement read earlier and the one-to-three-minute timeframe. He asked that everyone show courtesy when addressing the Board.

7:38pm A motion was made by Mr. Washco and seconded by Mr. Fenlon to open Public Comment. Voice vote: All members present voted yes (9-0); motion passed.

- A former teacher of 33 years shared that educators are held to higher standards for conduct on and off school grounds, including social media presence. The recent incident that involved the superintendent treaded across many news media platforms and this is not the kind of attention that our elementary school needs or wants, especially after the 2022 incident. She implored the Board to please consider behavioral consequences that could eliminate or deter the inappropriate, dangerous and possibly deadly behavior that has been exhibited by our superintendent. This is a teachable moment to all of our students. What lesson will you teach them?
- A former board member noted that board members, administrators and staff members are role models, they should be demonstrating respect, responsibility and citizenship, which are skills that we are trying to teach our children. Each of you have taken an Oath of Ethics and now our Chief School Administrator who is supposed to be a role model of ethics for our children and our community has violated that. If we are truly role models then do what is right, our children are watching, especially in this week when we are celebrating Showing Character. How many chances?
- A community member echoes the views of the previous two speakers. He said given the nature of today's world and social media it is hard to hide this stuff from our children. He brought up the past harassment case and the payoff monies and now a temporary leave of absence for the current violation. What does it achieve? Supports a permanent leave.
- A former district teacher at McKinley spoke of the character of the superintendent and praised him for all the good he does for the students and staff. Asked all to please pause before you post on social media.
- A community member talked about what this says to our students and how it can traumatize them. There are IEP cuts, PreK cuts, etc. he is not above the law and that the Board is here to serve the students, not the superintendent.

7:56pm A motion was made by Mr. Gioe and seconded by Mr. Washco to come out of Public Comment and resume the Business Meeting.

**N. BOARD INFORMATIONAL ITEMS****O. CLOSED SESSION**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Dr. Regulski and seconded by Mr. Gioe to adjourn the meeting at 8:00pm. Voice vote: All members present voted yes (9-0); motion passed.

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Lourdes LaGuardia  
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

LL/km/11/21/2024