NORTH CALDWELL BOARD OF EDUCATION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SESSION
GRANDVIEW SCHOOL CAFETERIA
VIA ZOOM MEETING
https://ncboe.zoom.us/s/99055700534
January 7, 2025
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. **REPORT ON ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 5, 2024**
   - **Matthew Whitford- 1623 Votes**
   - **Michael DiGirolomo-1528 Votes**
   - **Scott Methven- 1090 Votes**
   - **Write in- 11 Votes**
5. **SWEARING IN OF BOARD MEMBERS**
6. **ROLL CALL**
7. **CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR PRESIDENT**
   - **Motion to nominate _____to be approved as President.**

   Moved: Seconded:

   Yes: No:

8. **ELECTION OF PRESIDENT - PRESIDENT ASSUMES POSITION OF CHAIRPERSON**
9. **CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR VICE-PRESIDENT**
   - **Motion to nominate _____to be approved as Vice President.**

   Moved: Seconded:

   Yes: No:

10. ELECTION OF VICE PRESIDENT

11. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

12. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

13. PUBLIC COMMENT

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT (Pursuant to Board Policy 0167 – Public Participation in Board Meetings) During this opportunity to comment, district residents and staff are invited to discuss any area of public concern that may be in respect to the operation of the schools. Board Policy 0167 requires that individuals state their name and address of residence and asks that all remarks be directed to the Board as a whole and not to individuals. (All Zoom guests are required to turn their camera on if participating in public comment) The Board asks that members of the public be courteous and mindful of the rights of other individuals when speaking. Although the Board may not respond to items raised during the public forum, all public comments will be considered and may be discussed tonight under "new business" at this meeting, or at subsequent meetings under "old business," or during a Board committee meeting, if appropriate. Each speaker's statement will be limited to three (3) minutes in duration.

14. ACTION ITEMS

- **Organizational Resolutions**

O1. Adopt bylaws and policies
O2. Approve Robert Rules of Order
O3. Appoint Delegate to NJSBA
O4. Adopt Code of Ethics
O5. Approve 2025 Committees and Memberships
O6. Approve 2025 -2026 public and confidential meeting calendar

- **General Resolutions**

G1. Approve 2024-2025 Memorandum of Agreement
G2. Approve 2025-2026 Preschool Tuition
G3. Approve the 2025-2026 school calendar
G4. Approve the 2025-2026 Twelve Month calendar

- **Business Resolutions**

B1. Approve Public and Confidential Minutes of December 11th meeting
B2. Approve Payrolls
B3. Approve Electronic Check Register
B4. Approve Bills and Claims
B5. Approve November transfers
B6. Approve November 2024 Board Secretary Monthly Financial Report
B7. Approve Board Secretary's and Treasurer's November Financial Reports
B8. Approve December 2024 Title I Tutoring payment
B9. Approve boiler replacement at Grandview School
B10. Approve Form DOE-130 for Grandview boiler replacement

B11. Approve DiCara & Rubino architect DRA recommendation for boiler replacement

- **Personnel Resolutions**

P1. Approve full-time custodian
P2. Approve substitute teacher
P3. Approve rescinding resolution
P4. Approve rescinding resolution
P5. Approve teacher for additional teaching session
P6. Approve part-time custodian

- **P7. Approve professional development for listed staff**
- **P8. Approve staff member retirement**
- **INDICATES ADDENDUM**

15. OLD BUSINESS

16. NEW BUSINESS

17. 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:

Tuesday February 19, 2025, 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 January 7, 2025 in person at the Grandview School Cafeteria as well as via an online Zoom Meeting at 7:35 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: Mr. David Ved, President
Mrs. Sapna Malige, Vice-President
Mr. Eric Finkelstein
Mr. Michael DiGirolomo
Mr. Matthew Whitford

Also Present: Dr. Linda Freda, Superintendent
Mr. Michael Halik, Business Administrator / Board Secretary
Mr. Chris Checchetto, Principal
Mr. David Blackowski, Computer Network Systems Technician
Mr. Dennis McKeever, Board Attorney

ACTION ITEM

Mr. Halik called for Nominations for President.

Motion to nominate David Ved to be approved as President.

Moved:	Mr. Finkelstein	Seconded:	Mrs. Malige
Yes:	5	No:	0

Once approved, Mr. Ved, as President, assumed the position of chairperson calling for nominations for Vice-President.

Motion to Nominate Sapna Malige to be approved as Vice President.

Moved:	Mr. Finkelstein	Seconded:	Mr. Whitford
Yes:	5	No:	0

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Ved reported that twenty (20) people attended the meeting on zoom. He wished everyone a Happy New Year and thanked the Board members for appointing him Board President. He said he is honored and excited to take on the role. He welcomed Mr. DiGirolomo and Mr. Whitford on their election to the Board and thinks they will bring fresh perspectives and ideas to the Board. He congratulated Mrs. Malige on her appointment to Vice President. He expressed his gratitude to the outgoing Board President Mrs. Opper. He said her leadership and positive impact will be felt for years to come and he is inspired by her example and will strive to uphold the high standards she has set. He thanked Dr. Freda and Mr. Halik for their unwavering commitment to the schools and students and are the backbone of the district success.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Freda wished everyone a Happy New Year and stated the students returned to school rested and ready to work. She congratulated Mr. DiGirolomo and Mr. Whitford on their election to the Board and stated she is looking forward to working with them. She also congratulated Mr. Ved and Mrs. Malige on their new positions and thanked them for their continued dedication to the Board.

Dr. Freda congratulated Lynne Sibilia on her retirement and wished her well. She stated that Mrs. Sibilia is a Speech and Language Pathologist who always goes above and beyond for her students. She is a true professional who generously shares her knowledge and expertise with her colleagues. Mrs. Sibilia always looked for ways to increase teacher knowledge for the benefit of all students.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ORGANIZATIONAL RESOLUTIONS

O1. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education adopt all existing bylaws and policies of the Board and approve existing administrative rules and regulations, subject to revision, for the forthcoming fiscal school year.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

O2. **RESOLVED** that all meetings of the Board of Education be conducted according to Robert Rules of Order and Board Policy.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

O3. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education appoint **Sapna Malige** as Delegate to the New Jersey School Boards Association for one (1) year, beginning immediately and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the policy authorizing the duties of the delegate to the New Jersey School Board Association be approved as follows:

1. Represent the Board at meetings of the New Jersey School Boards Association.

2. Study and report to the Board all proposed State and Federal Legislature of interest and relevance.

3. At the direction of the Board, prepare proposed resolutions for submission to the State School Boards Association.

The policy shall not prohibit or discourage other Board members from active participation in legislative affairs.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

O4. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education re-adopt **Code of Ethics**, attached.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

O5. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the attached list of Committees and Membership for 2025.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

O6. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the attached schedule of public and confidential meetings for 2025-2026.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

GENERAL RESOLUTIONS

G1. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the 2024-2025 Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement between Education and Law Enforcement Officials.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

G2. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the 2025-2026 Preschool tuition to be $ 4,200.00 per child.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

G3. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the 2025-2026 school calendar.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

G4. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the 2025-2026 Twelve Month calendar.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

BUSINESS RESOLUTIONS

B1. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the **Public and Confidential Minutes of December 11th, 2024**

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

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

Payroll Date:	Payroll #	Amount:
December 11th, 2024	**38**	**$409,096.03**
December 13th, 2024	**39**	**$24,789.00**
December 20th, 2024	**40**	**$417,416.33**

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

B3. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the following **Electronic Check Register(s):**

Date	Starting check #	Ending Check #	Total Amount
Nov 1, 2024 – Nov 30, 2024	**E01495**	**E01582**	**$124,723.57**

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

B4. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the following **Bills and Claims:**

Date	Starting check #	Ending Check #	Total Amount
December 18, 2024	**002465**	**002473**	**$11,332.39**
December 18, 2024	**002474**	**002481**	**$57,953.61**
January 7, 2025	**002482**	**002517**	**$134,420.71**

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

B5. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve as per attached, **Transfers for November 2024**:

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

B6. **WHEREAS** pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c) 3, the Board Secretary does certify that as of **November 2024**, no budgetary line-item account has encumbrances and expenditures which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district board of education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8 and 18A:22-8.1; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c) 4, the Board of Education does certify that as of **November 2024**, the Board Secretary Monthly Financial Report, did not reflect an over expenditure in any Major Account or Fund, and based on the Appropriation Balances reflected on this report and on the advice of District Officials, that sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

B7. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the attached Board Secretary's and Treasurer's **Monthly Financial Reports** for **November 2024**.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

B8. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the **Title I Tutoring** Payment:

December 2024 **$6,325.00**

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

B9. **WHEREAS**, The Board of Education of North Caldwell School District in the County of Essex, New Jersey (the "Board"), desires to proceed with a school facilities project consisting generally of:

BOILER REPLACEMENT
AT
GRANDVIEW SCHOOL

WHEREAS, the Board now seeks to take the initial steps in order to proceed with the Project:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by The North Caldwell Board of Education of North Caldwell Public Schools in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. In accordance with the requirements of Section 6A:26-3 of the New Jersey Administrative Code, the Board hereby approves the Schematic Plans prepared in connection with the Project and the Board further authorizes the submission of same to the Essex County Superintendent of Schools and the New Jersey Department of Education for approval.

Section 2. The Board hereby authorizes the amendment to its Long-Range Facilities Plan in order to reflect the proposed Project(s).

Section 3. The School Administration and such other officers and agents of the Board as are necessary, including the Board attorney, bond counsel and architect, are hereby authorized to perform such other acts, to execute such other documents and to do such other things as are necessary to implement the determinations of the Board set forth in this resolution.

Section 4. This project is being funded as an "other capital project" and will not require state funding and the District is not seeking a Grant.

Section 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

B10. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the Form DOE-130 for Project 3630-060-13-3630 **Boiler Replacement at Grandview School** project costs as attached.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

B11. WHEREAS the North Caldwell Board of Education has determined, based on the recommendation of its Architect, Allen Barnett of **Dicara Rubino Architects ("DRA"),** that the boilers located in the Grandview Elementary School are in need of replacement; and

WHEREAS based on the recommendation of **DRA,** the North Caldwell Board of Education has determined that there is a special need for specifying that the brand of the replacement boilers be Aerco and that the brand is directly related to performance of the boilers, completion of the installation, and the purpose of the boilers replacement including but not limited to the heat distribution system, continuity of mechanical systems throughout the district addressing a savings in maintenance costs and the ability to service all district boilers after the installation; and

WHEREAS N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-15{d) permits a board of education, when seeking bids on a project, to specify proprietary goods or services under certain conditions.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT, RESOLVED that the North Caldwell Board of Education hereby determines there is a special need to replace the boilers at Grandview Elementary School with Aerco boilers which are directly related to the performance of the boilers, completion of the installation, and the purpose of the boilers replacement including but not limited to the heat distribution system, continuity of mechanical systems throughout the district addressing a savings in maintenance costs and the ability to service all district boilers after the installation.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

PERSONNEL RESOLUTIONS

P1. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve **Anthony Longo** as a full-time Custodian at a prorated salary of $49,492.00 (Custodian Step 4) from January 8, 2025 to June 30, 2025 or mutually agreed upon dates pending a favorable criminal history review.
*Salary to be updated upon completion of NCEA support staff contract.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

P2. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve **Erica Lista** as a substitute teacher for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

P3. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, rescind **Resolution P4** from December 11, 2024 Board agenda.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

P4. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, rescind **Resolution P8** from December 11, 2024 Board agenda.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

P5. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve payment of forty-two (42) dollars per day for **Sophia Worrall** to teach an additional math section during her prep period as per NCEA Collective Bargaining Agreement Article IV Section E from January 6, 2025 to June 30, 2025.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

P6. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve **David Reeves** as a part-time custodian at a rate of $20.50 per hour effective January 8, 2025, to June 30, 2025 pending favorable criminal history review.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

P7. **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**
Sibilia, Lynne	3/27, 3/28	NJSHA Convention	$255.00
Castiglia, Angela	2/1/2025	NJIDA Winter Institute	$60.00
Keenan, Alexandra	2/1/2025	NJIDA Winter Institute	$90.00
Schechter, Cheryl	2/1/2025	NJIDA Winter Institute	$120.00
Socci, Dana	3/27, 3/28	NJSHA Convention	$255.00

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

P8. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, regretfully approve the retirement of **Lynne Sibilia** effective July 1, 2025.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 5 No: 0

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Buildings and Grounds Committee- Mr. Finkelstein reported that the Buildings and Grounds Committee met to discuss ways to alleviate space constrictions at Grandview and Gould Schools. The committees also discussed necessary maintenance and upgrades, that need to be completed due to our aging facilities. The committee will have more details in February of a possible expansion at Grandview School. The committee is also considering a possible referendum to address the needs of Gould School.

The following resolution was called at approximately 7:49 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 Student Matter. Said matters will be made public upon their disposition.

Moved:	Mrs. Malige	Seconded:	Mr. Finkelstein
Yes:	5	No:	0

As there was no further business to discuss, the Board adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Halik

Michael Halik
Business Administrator / Board Secretary