

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

Date: December 16, 2024

Public Started: 6:00 P.M.

Public Started: 7:00 P.M.

Public Ended: 7:22 P.M.

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

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

Private Closed Session was read by President Wagner.

The Park Ridge Board of Education will adjourn into private session to discuss item(s) which fall within specific exceptions contained in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b.

Be it resolved that the Board will now go into private session to discuss matters rendered confidential due to the nature of pending or anticipated litigation, attorney client privilege and personnel – employment matters affecting a specific, prospective or current

employee privilege. Any discussion held by the Board, which need not remain confidential, will be made public as soon as practical. Minutes of the private session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exists. All appropriate persons, who may be discussed in private session, have been adequately notified (RICED) in accordance with Policy #0162, Notice of Board Meetings by the Board Secretary/Business Administrator).

Motion, second and vote to enter into private session at 6:03 pm.

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

The Regular Session of the Board of Education was recalled at 7:00 pm.

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

V. Minutes for Approval

Monthly Meeting

November 18, 2024

Board Approved

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

VI. Special Presentations to the Board

Ms. Agoos presented Ms. Wagner with a plaque in appreciation of her service as a Board member and Board President. She commented that Ms. Wagner brought passion and intelligence to the role. She commented that regardless of the situation, she always kept her cool. She thanked her for the gift of her service.

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

Jay reported that theater production of Hamlet went well. The Musical, Into the Woods, will be starting soon. The Vocal and instrumental music concerts were held. Both events went well. He reported that winter sports were starting and he was looking forward to the new season.

IX. President's Report

Ms. Wagner reported that she attended both school concerts. She commented how there is incredible talent at Park Ridge. She congratulated Jay on his solo on "How to save a life." She reported that it was her last meeting, commenting that it was not an easy decision not to run. She thanked the community for giving her the opportunity to serve. She felt grateful and blessed to be in Park Ridge with so many dedicated professionals. She wished everyone a wonderful holiday

X. Superintendent's Report **HIB Update**

Dr. Gamper reported that there was one HIB since the last meeting at the High School which was founded.

He then reported that he attended the West Ridge and High School concerts. They both did a great job. He was impressed with how many people attended. The East Brook concert will be tomorrow night. He commented that the winter sports are off to a good start and wished the teams the best of luck. He thanked Ms. Wagner for her service and said it was an honor getting to know her as person and a mom. He then wished everyone a Happy holiday.

XI. BOE Committee Reports

Policy Committee met last week. They continue to work on the facility policy, trying to find a balance between availability and equity.

Buildings and Grounds reviewed the proposals from Architects. They will be doing interviews tomorrow. They will bring a recommendation to the Board and the Board will interview the finalist. They are looking for an appointment in January

XII. Supplemental Agenda - None

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

XIII. Consent Agenda

The Board reviewed the consent agenda. It passed as follows:

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

XIV. Hearing of Citizens

Hearing of Citizens will be restricted to three minutes per person for a total of fifteen minutes for comments on non-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 thanked Ms. Wagner for her service. She then commented that she has come to the October and November meetings with questions on the West Ridge Graduation time. She still has received no response. She

wants to know how the graduation time for West Ridge was set. By having the graduation at 11:30 am in the morning, it will require anyone with children in the High school to miss the ceremony or have to pull them out, potentially interfering with their testing. She also commented that the time being set would force parents to take off from work. She also felt the time being set posed a safety risk and discriminated against the Special Education community. She questioned whether this decision was teacher driven, stating that she had read the contract and did not see where it precluded them from having it later.

She was told that the Board does not have a role in setting the graduation times and that she should speak with Mr. Lederman regarding any concerns she had about her High School child being able to attend the elementary graduation.

Kim, a Park Ridge parent, thanked Ms. Wagner for her service. She stated that she had two children at the High School and 2 at West Ridge. She commented that in the past three years, the West Ridge 6th grade graduation was held at 4 pm. This year, West Ridge families were notified it would be 11:30 am. She expressed concern that it is on same day as final exams. She was told there would be time for older students to attend the graduation. She felt that parents should have been told if there were problems with a 4:00 pm graduation time. She noted that at one point, 2:00 pm was recommended as a compromise, which she thought would be acceptable.

XV. Board Comments – New/Unfinished Business

Mr. Fisher commented that there is currently no policy on this matter. He asked if anyone would be interested in establishing one so that parents and children can attend ceremonies.

Mr. Fisher then made a motion to refer the matter to the Policy committee. The Board then voted on that motion, and it passed as follows:

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

Mr. Fisher then offered a tribute to Ms. Wagner. He stated that he had an enormous amount of respect for the time and commitment she put in. While they did not always agree on things, he felt it made for better policy. He congratulated Mr. Bradler and Mr. Amitrano on the election to the Board. He stated that he looks forward to making Park Ridge more affordable for young families and seniors. He then wished everyone a Happy Hanukkah and a Merry Christmas.

Mr. Bradler thanked Ms. Wagner for her service saying she had done very well.

Mr. Bucco also thanked Ms. Wagner saying she left the place better than she found it.

Ms. Browne thanked Ms. Wagner saying she appreciated all the tutelage.

XVI. Adjournment – 7:22 pm

M: RF S: JB
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW
Y 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 November with no suspensions and no trancies reported.

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

- E2. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the following student on home instruction, as indicated below, subject to revision:

<u>STUDENT</u>	<u>DATES</u>	<u>APPROXIMATE TIME</u>	<u>SUBJECTS</u>
921(a)-050	11/22/24 – 12/20/24	2 hours/week	Pre-Calculus
921(a)-050	11/22/24 – 12/20/24	2 hours/week	Themes World Lit I
921(a)-050	11/22/24 – 12/20/24	2 hours/week	AP US History

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

- E3. Be it resolved that the Park Ridge School district affirms its membership in the Pascack Valley Council for Special Education for the 2025/2026 school year and commits its full support and financial participation in the Council. ***“E3”***

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

- E4. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the appointment of the following outside agency and/or consultant for services for the 2024/25 school year:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED</u>
Dr. Steven Korner	CST Professional Development (6 Sessions)	\$1,800.00

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 I, certifies that the Board Secretary's November 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. 6:20 – 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 October 2024. **"F2"**

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 # 51508-51616 in the total amount of \$2,859,896.97 and 911243-912242 (\$603,164.00), and EFTs using ACH technology #L58864 – L58868 in the amount of \$72,989.02. **"F3"**

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

F4. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the payment of Athletic Vouchers #900010 and #14214-#14235 in the total amount of \$6,942.20. **"F4"**

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

F5. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the Varsity Athletic Club Voucher #1118 in the total amount of \$ 75.00. **"F5"**

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

F6. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the Unemployment Compensation Voucher #1017 in the total amount of \$1,528.00. **"F6"**

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

MO 121624

F7. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the November 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 November 2024 in the amount indicated per Appendix A. **“F8”**

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW
F1.-F8– Backup attached if applicable.

F9. The Park Ridge Board of Education accepts the following donations for the 24/25 school year:

<u>DONOR</u>	<u>TYPE OF DONATION</u>	<u>FOR</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
East Brook PTO	Monetary	6 th Grade East Brook Student Activities	\$1,315.89

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

F10. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves Stack Sports LLC., to provide an on-site weight room supervision for Park Ridge High School, from January 2, 2025 – June 13, 2025, daily from 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. at an hourly rate of \$35.00 hours.

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

F11. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the appropriation of 2023-24 Extraordinary Aid funds in the amount of \$76,000.00, to be used in the 2024-25 budget as follows:

11-000-251-721-000-00-00	\$71,000.00
12-140-100-730-050-01-28	\$ 5,000.00

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

F12. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the following revised amount to be charged to 2024/25 ESEA Grants as follows:

<u>STAFF MEMBER</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>GRANT</u>	<u>AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED</u>
Ostrowski, Jennifer	Basic Skills Teacher	ESEA Title I	\$46,400.00

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

BUILDING 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 Use of the Building Facilities Application for the Park Ridge Girl Scouts, for use of West Ridge Room #16 on Wednesday May 21, 2025 as per Board Policy #7510 "Use of School Facilities," as per attached. **"B1"**

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 appointment of the following substitutes for the 2024/25 school year:

NONE

M: S:

RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

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

SCHEDULE "E" APPOINTMENTS 2024/25 SCHOOL YEAR:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>STIPEND/RATE</u>
Bruno, Michael	Volunteer Winter Track Coach	N/A
O'Hanlon, John	Esports Team – Winter	\$1,927.00

APPOINTMENTS:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION/SERVICE</u>	<u>RATE/SALARY</u>
Cohen, Eve	EXTRAS Student Aide	\$16.50/hour
Falcone, Hannah	EXTRAS Substitute Adult Aide	\$24.00/hour
Falcone, Hannah	EXTRAS Substitute Student Aide	\$16.50/hour
Giordano, Joseph	EXTRAS Substitute Adult Aide	\$24.00/hour
Giordano, Joseph	EXTRAS Substitute Student Aide	\$16.50/hour
Hollers, Abigail	EXTRAS Student Aide	\$16.50/hour
Pulvirenti, Gianni	EXTRAS Substitute Adult Aide	\$24.00/hour

M: S:

RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

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

<u>NAME</u>	<u>REASON/LOCATION FOR CONFERENCE/SEMINAR</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED</u>
<i>NONE</i>			

M: S:

RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

- P4. The Park Ridge Board of Education accepts the resignation of David Librera, Facilities Manager, due to retirement, effective March 1, 2025.

M: S:

RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

MO 121624

- P5. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the following staff members as home instructors for Student 921(a)-050, from November 22, 2024, to December 20, 2024, as follows:

<u>STAFF MEMBER</u>	<u>SUBJECTS TO BE COVERED</u>	<u>HOURS PER WEEK</u>	<u>HOURLY RATE</u>
Fogarty, John	AP US History	2 hours/week	\$65.00
Kovacs, Charles	Themes World Lit I	2 hours/week	\$65.00
Palacios, Carla	Pre – Calculus	2 hours/week	\$65.00

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

- P6. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves additional hours for the following staff member for the 2024/25 school year:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>RATE</u>
Hassan, Nadij	EB Winter Concert Chaperone 12/10/24	2 hrs.	\$24.03/hour
Silverman, Andrea	HS Winter Concert Chaperone on 12/4/24	3 hrs.	\$28.99/hour

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

- P7. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the following staff members for an additional stipend for teaching a 6th period, effective January 2, 2025, through January 31, 2025, or sooner:

<u>STAFF MEMBER</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>	<u>STIPEND</u>
Loll, Heather	Period 3/4 Science 8 Collaborative	\$2,374.07
Maskin, Sarah-Kate	Period 12/13 Skills for School Success 9/10	\$1,943.11
Schoenkopf, Ann Marie	Period 9/10 LLD Science 9/10	\$2,447.57
Strammiello, Debbie	Period 16/17 Fundamentals Environmental Science	\$2,447.57
Wall, Heather	Period 14/15 Science 8 Collaborative	\$1,535.50

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

- P8. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the paraprofessional transfer below for the remainder of the 2024/25 school:

<u>STAFF MEMBER</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
Perry, Jennifer	6 hr. paraprofessional (Step 4) ECLC	7 hr. paraprofessional (Step 4) PRHS

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

MO 121624

P9. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the appointment of Brian Morgan as Facilities Manager for the 2024/25 fiscal year with a projected start date of March 1, 2025 and a salary of \$92,700 pro-rated to the start date.

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW