

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

PUBLIC WORK SESSION

January 27, 2025

5:36 p.m.

Board of Education Office

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

Mr. Smith	<u>Present</u>
Mrs. Gilgallon	<u>Present</u> – 5:41 p.m.
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 January 27, 2025, 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 6, 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 the Educators of the Year will be honored at the next Board Meeting and that an invitation will be sent to them.
2. The Superintendent said that the lightning rods were agreed upon as a split venture with the Borough. He said that Steve Lo Iacono would be the point person. He stated that the Mayor’s team has a newsletter they put together and that he was asked to provide the team with quotes, which he provided.
3. The Superintendent stated that he received a call from Mr. Dorsett during the week regarding a parent who reached out to him from the Booster Club. Mr. Dorsett said that the parent wanted to know if sponsors’ names could be placed on a large blow-up tunnel and have signage on the field at football games thanking the sponsors. Mrs. Higgins suggested a pop-up poster that can be put up during the game with the sponsors names on it and taken down after the game. The Board discussed further. The Superintendent said that the Booster Club president and vice president should send in a proposal for us to review.
4. Mr. Dorsett asked if the football coach was leaving. The Superintendent said that he resigned from the paraprofessional position and not the coaching position.
5. Mr. Smith inquired about a resolution on the agenda regarding a replacement teacher at Washington School. The Superintendent explained the situation, which included a leave position, long-term substitute teacher, and a new teacher.
6. Mrs. Higgins inquired about a resolution regarding the resignation of the art teacher at the middle school. The Superintendent said that the teacher she is replacing never started the position as the art teacher.
7. Mrs. Higgins asked if there were any updates on computers and how the tech department cycles through laptops. The Superintendent said that the Technology Director makes all necessary upgrades on Memory and RAM if needed. He also stated that the teachers all received brand new computers three years ago and all are updated as needed.

8. Mr. Dorsett asked if there was any guidance regarding immigrant students in our school district. The Superintendent said that the State put out a memo providing a resource page saying that information will be coming soon. He also said that the County Superintendent will be having a meeting with State officials. He is waiting for guidance.
9. Mrs. Higgins mentioned an opportunity for STEM grants. The Superintendent asked Mrs. Higgins to forward any information to him and he would review it.
10. Mrs. Gilgallon stated that a new line was added in the Bi-Annual Statement of Assurance for paraprofessionals. She said they are required to have a PDP plan for all paraprofessionals assigned to preschool. The Superintendent stated that we would review that with the Director of Curriculum and Instruction.
11. The Board discussed and chose the committees they wanted to represent.
12. The Superintendent updated the Board on general language changes on policies and regulations, along with new for protocols at games to align with the NJIC.
13. The School Business Administrator asked the Student Board Member if there was anything that she wanted to add at the meeting. The Student Board Member said that she did not have anything to add at this time. Mr. Dorsett asked the Student Board Member if there were any groups or clubs that were overlooked, making a positive impact in the district or community, and deserve to be honored at the Board Meeting. The Student Board Member stated that she could not think of anything off the top of her head.
14. The School Business Administrator stated that there were incorrect Spring track coaching stipends in a resolution on the agenda that were being corrected for approval.
15. The Superintendent discussed the Federal and State 18-21 graduation rates. He stated that the deputy commissioner was unable to provide much information. He said that there will be an NJASA executive session meeting on Thursday at 12:30 to discuss the ongoing issues.

Motion to move to Executive Session at 6:00 p.m. made by Mr. McDermott, second by Mrs. Higgins. 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