

Board of Education

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date and Time

Tuesday, November 26, 2024
at 9:30 A.M

Location

The SBJC Ed Center
696 Route 46 West, Teterboro, NJ

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

NJ OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Business Administrator-Secretary has caused notice of this meeting to be sent to the following, announcing time and place thereof, agenda, etc.:

North Jersey Media Group.

Notice of this meeting has been posted in the lobby of the Board of Education Office and at the South Bergen Jointure Commission Public Schools. This is an official meeting of the Board of Education/South Bergen Jointure Commission.

Meeting opened at 9:34 am.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mr. A. Albro, Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. F. D'Amico, Dr. S. DeNobile, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Mr. P. Galasso, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Dr. D. Sforza, Ms. T. Violetti

Members Absent: Mr. J. Chirichella, Ms. A. Evans, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. R. Tomko, Dr. J. Torrento, Dr. S. Yurchak

Also Present: Dr. M. Kuchar, Ms. S. Cucciniello

- Dr. S. Yurchak arrived at 9:35 am during the Superintendent's Report.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Kuchar updated the Board on the recent Finance Committee meeting and the meeting with the Lodi Board of Education that was attended by him and Ms. Cucciniello. He also spoke of the district's current status and programs.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Dr. Yvette Lozanski
Seconded: Mr. Joseph DeCorso

1. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION, that the minutes of the Executive Session and Regular Meeting of October 28, 2024 be approved.

ACTION TAKEN FOR APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

AYES: Mr. A. Albro, Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. F. D'Amico, Dr. S. DeNobile, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Mr. P. Galasso, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Dr. D. Sforza, Ms. T. Violetti, Dr. S. Yurchak

ABSTAIN: None

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Mr. J. Chirichella, Ms. A. Evans, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. R. Tomko, Dr. J. Torrento

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Ms. Forte from the parent's group spoke of the CST's involvement with parents and said the Child Study Team used to know all of the SBJC staff and parent word of mouth is very important. This was in response to some items that were discussed by the Finance Committee regarding placement of students. She went over upcoming events at our schools and wished us a Happy Thanksgiving.

REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

2. FINANCE REPORT

Motion: Mr. John Hurley
Seconded: Mr. Frank D'Amico

2a. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION, that the FINANCE resolutions as per the attached report are approved. (*Attachments 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e*)

2b. The Board accepts the Board Secretary's Report as of September 30th, 2024 and approves "Pursuant to NJAC 6:20-2A.10(E), certify that as of September 30th, 2024 the Board Secretary's monthly financial report (Appropriations sections), did not reflect an over expenditure in any of the major accounts or funds, and based on the appropriations balances reflected on the report and the advice of districts 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." (Attachment 2b)

2c. The Board accepts the financial report of the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of September 2024 (*Attachment 2c*).

2d. The Board approves the following resolution: "Pursuant to NJAC 6:20-2A.10(d), we certify that as of September 30th, 2024, no budgetary line item has been over-expanded in violation of NJAC 6:20-2A.10(a)."

2e. There were no transfers for the month of September 2024.

2f. The October & November bills list below are approved (*Attachment 2f*):

Bills Payable	\$4,416,811.99
Payroll Transfers	\$2,230,197.21
Cafeteria Checks	\$ 30,549.66
Total	\$6,677,558.86

2g. Motion to accept the New Jersey Schools Insurance Group Safety Grant in the amount of \$2,000.00 to be used for safety-related improvements at our facilities (*Attachment 2g*).

2h. Motion to approve the following professional workshops and the reimbursement costs of the workshops.

Name	Workshop	Workshop Provider	Date(s)	Cost
Cucciniello, Susan	Green is in	NJASBO	11/12/24	\$195.00
Kuchar, Michael	TECHSPO 2025	NJASA	1/29-1/31/25	\$590 + lodging, meals & travel
Miller, Shane	TECHSPO 2025	NJASA	1/29-1/31/25	\$590 + lodging, meals & travel

2i. Motion to approve the following field trips with cost:

Field Trip Date	Destination	Teacher(s)	Cost of Trip	Est. Cost of Trans.	Total Cost of Trip for SBJC
11/6/24	Lodi Memorial Park	Dabbagh & Pombo	\$0.00	\$204.00	\$204.00
12/12/24	Newark Museum of Art	Maslanka	\$300.00	\$204.00	\$504.00
11/6/24	HealthBarn	Malz/White/Gentile	\$240.00	\$400.00	\$640.00
12/4/24, 12/11/24 & 1/8/25	ShopRite of Lodi	Tocci		\$612.00	\$612.00
10/18/24	Kids Empire	Malz/Gentile/White	\$154.00	\$400.00	\$554.00
12/6/24 & 12/16/24	Aldi Lodi	Crowe		\$408.00	\$408.00
12/11/24	Shoprite of Lyndhurst	Frangione/Serrano/Rizzolo/Campillo/Agresta		\$204.00	\$204.00
1/22/25	Stop & Shop of Hackensack	Tocci		\$204.00	\$204.00
11/19/24, 12/10/24 &	Stew Leonard's Paramus	Pombo/Dabbagh/Hallahan		\$612.00	\$612.00

1/7/25					
1/21/25	Target Paramus Park Mall	Hallahan/Dabbagh/Po mbo		\$204.00	\$204.00
11/22/24	Bakin Bagels	Hickey	\$20.00		\$20.00

2j. Motion to approve the Budget Calendar for the 2025-26 budget preparation (*Attachment 2j*).

2k. Motion to approve the proposed Dental benefit renewal with Delta Dental for the 24 month period from January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2026 at the proposed rates. These rates reflect a 2.5% increase (*Attachment 2k*).

2l. Motion to approve Michael Kuchar Continuing Education course Applied Behavior Analysis BEH5045/5048 from Florida Institute of Technology at a cost of \$2,166 from 1/13/25 - 4/26/25.

2m. Motion to approve the proposed Tuition credit giveback to be issued to member districts based on enrollment at the SBJC schools as of November 2024. These credits are based on \$20,000 credit per 6 students enrolled. (*Attachment 2m*).

ACTION TAKEN FOR 2. FINANCE

AYES: Mr. A. Albro, Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. F. D'Amico, Dr. S. DeNobile, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Mr. P. Galasso, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Dr. D. Sforza, Ms. T. Violetti, Dr. S. Yurchak

ABSTAIN: None

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Mr. J. Chirichella, Ms. A. Evans, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. R. Tomko, Dr. J. Torrento

3. PERSONNEL

Motion: Mr. Joseph DeCorso

Seconded: Mr. Giovanni Giancaspro

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION, that in compliance with Chapter 116, P.L. 1986 and in accordance with the State of New Jersey Department of Education memorandum dated October 29, 1986 that all new personnel shall be considered to be provisionally hired: and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Schools is hereby directed to comply with State Department directives concerning the State and Federal criminal history background checks of these employees and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said new personnel shall be considered provisionally hired until such time as the Department of Education has indicated that they have completed the criminal history background checks of prospective employees and that said employees have satisfied the requirements of Chapter 116, P.L. 1986 at which time said employees shall no longer be provisional; the Business Administrator shall be hereby directed to employ personnel and to take such other personnel actions as indicated.

All appointments upon recommendation of the Superintendent are on an emergent basis, pending completion of a criminal history background check. In addition, all appointments are contingent upon the employee signing a contract in accordance with law and the receipt of favorable reference responses. All aide appointments are contingent upon the employee being available for employment for the month of July 1, 2024 through July 31, 2025. All employees are approved to be paid additional compensation for the Clubs and Activities Program, Home Programming and Parent Training Home Program, office support and Home Instruction on an as-needed basis.

3a. Motion to approve the attached additional pay for services rendered as indicated (*Attachment 3a*).

3b. Motion to accept the resignation of the following personnel:

Name	Position	Effective Date	Purpose
Heather Pena	Paraprofessional	11/23/24	Resignation
Patricia Agresta	Teacher	7/1/25	Retirement
Barbara Warmuz	Payroll/Benefits Coordinator	1/20/25	Resignation

3c. Motion to approve the leave of absence for the following, using days in accordance with the individual agreement with the Board and utilizing the FMLA and/or NJFLA leave entitlement.

Employee ID#	Position	Effective Dates
1160	Paraprofessional	10/25/24 - 12/17/24 (adjusted)
0999	Nurse	7/16/24 - 1/12/25 (adjusted)
0027	Paraprofessional	10/24/24 - 1/14/25 (adjusted)
1021	Paraprofessional	1/17/2025 - 4/13/25
0454	Teacher	3/5/25 - 6/19/25

3d. Motion to approve the following staff to be paid the **revised** annual amounts below for teaching an extra period each day for the 2024-2025 school year.

Name	Annual Amount	Dates
Corey Bladzinski	\$6,909.75	9/5/2024 - 6/24/2025
Sonila DaSilva	\$6,864.75	9/5/2024 - 6/24/2025
David McKeon	\$6,396.75	9/5/2024 - 6/24/2025
Alicia Lavelle	\$8,280.00	9/5/2024 - 6/24/2025
Hae Jo Chun	\$5,622.75	9/5/2024 - 6/24/2025

Jason Markowski	\$2,961.63	9/5/2024 - 1/24/2025
Rachel Maslanka	\$3,099.23	9/5/2024 - 1/24/2025
Randi Schmidt	\$3,051.93	9/5/2024 - 1/24/2025
Mary Payoczkowski	\$4,381.58	1/27/2025 - 6/24/2025
Melissa Betyeman	\$3,481.53	1/27/2025 - 6/24/2025
Rebecca Vinik	\$3,816.40	1/27/2025 - 6/24/2025

3e Motion to approve the contract with each of the Boards of Education for the SBJC to provide 1:1 aide services for the 2024-2025 school year. Full amount of the annual prorated fee shall be charged to each of the Boards of Education.

District	Student ID
Wallington	48451539
Rutherford	48451573

3f. Motion to approve the appointment of the following personnel. Salary will be prorated for the period worked.

Name	Position	Effective Date	Salary/Step
Olivia Schlackman	Speech Therapist	1/2/2025	\$67,175.00
Joseph Batcho	Paraprofessional	11/15/24	\$26.98 / hour

3g. Motion to approve additional transportation support for extracurricular activities for student #48450988, at the rate of \$20.00 per trip.

3h. Motion to approve the Sidebar Agreement with the South Bergen Jointure Commission Education Association (*Attachment 3h*).

ACTION TAKEN FOR 3. PERSONNEL

AYES: Mr. A. Albro, Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. F. D'Amico, Dr. S. DeNobile, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Mr. P. Galasso, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Dr. D. Sforza, Ms. T. Violetti, Dr. S. Yurchak

ABSTAIN: Mr. J. Hurley (3e only), Dr. Y. Lozanski (3e only)

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Mr. J. Chirichella, Ms. A. Evans, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. R. Tomko, Dr. J. Torrento

4. POLICY

Motion: Mr. Giovanni Giancaspro
Seconded: Dr. Yvette Lozanski

4a. BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Bergen Jointure Commission Board of Education affirms the Superintendent's decision in HIB investigations for the reasons set forth in the Superintendent's decision to the students' parents, and directs the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to transmit a copy of the Board's decision to the affected students' parents.

24-25-1-Lodi-7112040665
24-25-1-Lodi-6849910836
24-25-2-Lodi-6849910836
24-25-3-Lodi-9805201060
24-25-4-Lodi-8759804169

ACTION TAKEN FOR 4. POLICY

AYES: Mr. A. Albro, Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. F. D'Amico, Dr. S. DeNobile, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Mr. P. Galasso, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Dr. D. Sforza, Ms. T. Violetti, Dr. S. Yurchak
ABSTAIN: None
NAYES: None
ABSENT: Mr. J. Chirichella, Ms. A. Evans, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. R. Tomko, Dr. J. Torrento

5. TRANSPORTATION

Motion: Mr. Joseph DeCorso
Seconded: Dr. Yvette Lozanski

- 5a. Motion to approve the attached 2024-2025 RSY Quotes Set 3 (*Attachment 5a*).
- 5b. Motion to approve the withholding of payment on Route #6425 for Destiny 23 Transportation for multiple penalties, including improper insurance, failure to provide appropriate staff and failure to provide CDL licensed driver. Penalty of two times the daily rate of \$251.96 for one day (October 10th, 2024) for three penalties, total amount of \$1511.76 will be deducted from the October payment. Route has been canceled.
- 5c. Motion to approve the withholding of payment on Route #QIN100 for Kris Transportation for overpayment in September. Contractor was paid for 18 days but should have been paid for one. Total of \$3,366.00 deducted from October payment. No penalty was assessed.

- 5d. Motion to approve the additional payment on route #5232 for Castro School Transportation. Contractor was not paid for aide for the month of September. Additional payment totals \$360.00, which will be added to October payment.
- 5e. Motion to approve completion of school bus evacuation drills at all SBJC campuses. Drills were completed between 10/15/24 and 11/22/24. SBJC Lodi supervised by Ken Rota, Principal. SBJC Maywood supervised by Lauren Rosicki, Principal. SBJC Moonachie and South Hackensack supervised by Holly Ehle, Principal. SBJC Garfield, Felician and Lyndhurst supervised by Lorraine Rake, Principal.

ACTION TAKEN FOR 5. TRANSPORTATION

AYES: Mr. A. Albro, Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. F. D'Amico, Dr. S. DeNobile, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Mr. P. Galasso, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Dr. D. Sforza, Ms. T. Violetti, Dr. S. Yurchak

ABSTAIN: None

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Mr. J. Chirichella, Ms. A. Evans, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. R. Tomko, Dr. J. Torrento

6. FACILITIES AND PLANNING**7. FOOD SERVICE****8. CURRICULUM**

Motion: Ms. Ms. T. Violetti

Seconded: Dr. Dario Sforza

- 8a. Motion to approve the updated Field Trip List (*Attachment 8a*).

Action taken for 8. CURRICULUM

AYES: Mr. A. Albro, Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. F. D'Amico, Dr. S. DeNobile, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Mr. P. Galasso, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Dr. D. Sforza, Ms. T. Violetti, Dr. S. Yurchak

ABSTAIN: None

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Mr. J. Chirichella, Ms. A. Evans, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. R. Tomko, Dr. J. Torrento

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

10. OLD BUSINESS

11. NEW BUSINESS

12. INFORMATION ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Mr. John Hurley
Seconded: Mr. Anthony Albro

BE IT RESOLVED, that this meeting is adjourned at 10:14 am.

ACTION TAKEN FOR ADJOURNMENT

Action taken: Unanimous approval by voice vote.

Ms. Susan Cucciniello
Business Administrator/Board Secretary



**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
CLOSED MEETING TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE**

NOVEMBER 26, 2024

Motion:

Seconded:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION will hold a closed meeting on November 26, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. to review personnel matters and other confidential concerns as listed on the Closed Agenda dated November 26, 2024. The items discussed will be made public at the conclusion of the executive session or at a date not determined at this time.

Action taken:

**SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION
CLOSED - MONTHLY MEETING**

Meeting Opened at _____.

Members Present:

Members Absent:

Also Present:

Special Order of Business

ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

Seconded:

BE IT RESOLVED, that this closed session is adjourned at _____.

Action taken: