

COLTS NECK TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS
COLTS NECK, NEW JERSEY 07722

Mission Statement

The mission of Colts Neck Township Schools is to empower and inspire students to be confident, creative, self-sufficient learners who maximize their strengths and talents and contribute as responsible participants in their ever expanding world.

MINUTES: For the Meeting of the Board of Education, **February 14, 2024**, at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administration Building at 70 Conover Road, Colts Neck, New Jersey 07722

2023-2024 Colts Neck Township Schools District Goals

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT - To implement supplemental intervention programs designed specifically to target areas of student performance in language arts and mathematics for the purpose of yielding results on 2024 Spring NJSLA that restore all tested grade level scores to 2019 pre-pandemic scores or above.

COMMUNITY & COMMUNICATIONS - Design and coordinate opportunities for the district to interact and communicate with parents and the community at large for purposes of enhancing the district's public relations and parent engagement.

FACILITIES: Continue efforts to provide additional outdoor and indoor spaces to support student learning and the overall development of the whole child.

STAFF ENGAGEMENT: Increase and enhance opportunities for staff to participate and contribute to decisions directly impacting them and their work environment.

Public Participation

The 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. Public participation is governed under District Policy 0167 - Public Participation in Board Meetings as follows:

Public participation shall be governed by the following rules:

- 1. A participant must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface comments by an announcement of his/her name, municipality of residence, and group affiliation, if applicable;*
- 2. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to three minutes' duration;*
- 3. No participant may speak more than once on the same topic until all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard; and only then if time constraints and/or the presiding officer allow.*
- 4. All statements, questions, or inquiries shall be directed to the presiding officer; and any questions or inquiries directed by a participant to another Board member or Superintendent shall be redirected to the presiding officer who shall determine if such statement, question, or inquiry shall be addressed by the presiding officer on behalf of the Board or by the individual Board member or Superintendent;*
- 5. It is the expectation of the Board that communications between participants and the Board will remain positive and focused around the best interest of the student(s) and the district as a whole. All communications from all stakeholders shall be conducted with mutual respect and civility. The Board will not condone communications and interactions that can be perceived as harassing, insulting, threatening, or lacking in respect or civility.*

The presiding officer may:

- a. Interrupt, warn, and/or terminate a participant's statement, question, or inquiry when it is too lengthy;*

- b. *Interrupt and/or warn a participant when the statement, question, or inquiry is abusive, obscene, or may be defamatory;*
- c. *Request any person to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum;*
- d. *Request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person prevents or disrupts a meeting with an act that obstructs or interferes with a meeting;*
- e. *Call for a recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting; and*
- f. *Waive these rules when necessary for the protection of privacy or to maintain an orderly operation of the Board meeting.*

CALL TO ORDER

President Camera called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. Approximately 10 members of the public were present.

ROLL CALL

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta and Angelique Volpe

Board Members Absent: Brenna Dillon and Kevin Walsh

LEGAL NOTICE OF MEETING

LEGAL NOTICE

Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, this meeting has been duly advertised in the Asbury Park Press in a schedule of meetings dated January 11, 2024 notice of which has been filed with the Deputy Clerk for Colts Neck Township and the requirements of posting of notices have been met.

FLAG SALUTE

FLAG SALUTE

John Camera led the Flag Salute.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

APPROVAL OF
MINUTES

1. It was moved by Jessica Ramirez, seconded by Jason Orrico and carried on a roll call vote to approve the Board minutes of the following Meetings:

Meeting
November 1, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez and Angelique Volpe

No: None

Abstain: Vincent Rugnetta

Absent: Brenna Dillon and Kevin Walsh

PRESENTATION

PRESENTATION

None

COMMUNICATIONS ([Attachment # CM-1](#))

COMMUNICATIONS

Date	From	To	Subject
1/24/24	Alicia Raia-Hawrylak	Board of Education	Concerns for the appointed mentors for new BOE members
1/25/24	Tracy Kramer	Board of Education	Questioning newly BOE Committee Chairs
2/6/24	Lynn Owens	Board of Education	School Store Company

Kevin Walsh arrived at the meeting at 6:39 p.m.

REPORT OF PRESIDENT – Mr. John Camera

PRESIDENT'S
REPORT

President Camera reported as follows:

- The Superintendent has been keeping the Board very well informed with her weekly updates.
- Noted collaborative work; Mrs. Volpe was successful in getting Student Representation on the Board. Mr. Camera thanked Mrs. Dillon, Mrs. Dimes and Mrs. DeNoia for all the work they had previously done on this.
- Mr. Walsh has set up an initial meeting with the school's security staff.
- Mr. Orrico is scheduled to have his first finance meeting which is set for tomorrow morning. The meeting will focus on the development of the '24-25 budget.
- Recognized Mrs. Dimes' work assisting in the organization of the Annual PTO Spring Gala.
- Mr. Rugnetta is moving forward with organizing the new Ad-Hoc Committee for the Arts, Sports, & Extracurricular Activities.
- Thanked Mrs. DeNoia for attending the Township Committee meetings and staying informed.
- Mr. Timothy Teehan, NJSBA Field Service Representative, is here tonight to provide the Board with a presentation on committees of the whole. Also thanked Mr. Teehan for the school ethics training which was held on January 24th.
- Will continue to work with Mr. Marasco to ensure that RFPs for Professional Services are advertised to allow for proper review and appointments to coincide with the '24-25 school year;
- Regarding amendments to the homework policy, the Administration has put out an excellent survey to obtain input from our stakeholders and there is a first reading on tonight's agenda. The essence of the revision is that all homework must be posted on Google classroom for grades 3 through 8, and not required to be submitted any sooner than the start of the school day.

- The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for March 13th; the March 27th meeting will be canceled.
- Discussed Senate Bill 2421 which is on the NJ Senate Education Committee tomorrow at 11am; he will be attending said meeting. Noted that he prepared a letter which was sent out to the full Board earlier, and that he would like to submit the letter to the NJ Senate Education Committee. He believes that the letter as drafted by him is fair and he recognizes that the Bill has some merit but also recognizes that there are some concerning aspects and asks for the Committee to consider some changes before moving it forward. He is hopeful that this letter could be sent by the full Board.

Angelique Volpe then made a motion to send the proposed letter as drafted by Mr. Camera, but intended to be sent from the full Board, in response to Senate Bill 2421. The motion was seconded by Jason Orrico.

Mrs. Dimes commented that due to the lack of time for her to review the letter and in the spirit of transparency she does not feel that this is something that should move forward as a Board.

Mrs. DeNoia commented that on Sunday the Board received an email from the Pacific Justice Institution, a faith-based nonprofit organization, asking districts to make statements at their Board meetings against the bill. Since then, Mr. Camera has written a letter that he would like to send from the full Board. She noted that she is very uncomfortable with it as representative of the full board. She remarked it is not the Board's place to submit this letter as she does not believe that the intent of the bill is what Mr. Camera is suggesting in his proposed letter. Mrs. DeNoia also commented that the proposed letter was only sent to board members several hours ago. Mr. Camera acknowledged and apologized that he was not able to prepare the letter sooner. Mrs. DeNoia further inquired whether Special Counsel assisted Mr. Camera in the preparation of the letter to which Mr. Camera responded "no".

Mr. Rugnetta commented that he has some concerns with some of the wording in Mr. Camera's letter and would request that it be amended to include his proposed revisions. Mr. Rugnetta's concerns relate to Mr. Camera's statements relating to Section 7 a. and b.

At the request of Mrs. DeNoia, Mr. Camera read his proposed letter.

Mrs. DeNoia noted that should this Bill pass the Senate, it gives districts the ability to create a policy within our realm and within our parameters. By advocating for restricting things, we are eliminating parental choices. She added that the Board needs to be careful what we as a whole are advocating for vs what individuals on the board are advocating for. If the majority of the Board would like to submit this letter, she requested that those individuals sign it as individuals and not as a Board of Education. Mr. Camera disagreed with Mrs. DeNoia's comment. Mrs. DeNoia then noted that a statement should be included that it is a "majority" of the Board not the full Board. Mr. Camera indicated that he would be happy to get guidance from counsel.

Mrs. Ramirez commented that she believes the essence of the letter is to pause, reconsider some of these points and have a second read instead of pushing it through. Mr. Camera agreed.

Yes: John Camera, Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: Alison DeNoia and Amy Dimes (remote)

Absent: Brenna Dillon

Mr. Marasco noted that the motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMITTEE
REPORTS

Buildings & Grounds/Safety & Security Committee:

Chairperson: Kevin Walsh
Committee Members: Brenna Dillon, Jason Orrico, Vincent Rugnetta
Administrator: Vincent Marasco

- Kevin Walsh reported that there was a meeting scheduled for yesterday, but due to the closure, the meeting has been rescheduled for the end of the month.

Communications Committee:

Chairperson: Vincent Rugnetta
Committee Members: Amy Dimes, Jessica Ramirez, Angelique Volpe
Administrator: Philip J. Capasso III

- Vincent Rugnetta reported that the next meeting of the committee is scheduled for February 21st.

Curriculum Committee:

Chairperson: Jessica Ramirez
Committee Members: Amy Dimes, Vincent Rugnetta, Kevin Walsh
Administrator: Dr. Erica Reynolds

- Jessica Ramirez reported that the committee has not met; will reach out to Dr. Reynolds to get a meeting scheduled.

Finance/Negotiations Committee:

Chairperson: Jason Orrico
Committee Members: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Kevin Walsh
Administrator: Vincent Marasco

- Jason Orrico reported that the committee is meeting tomorrow morning.

Policy Committee:

Chairperson: Jessica Ramirez
Committee Members: Alison DeNoia, Jason Orrico, Angelique Volpe
Administrator: Dr. MaryJane Garibay

- Jessica Ramirez reported that the committee has not met yet; discussed with Dr. Garibay other options for Board Policy resources and expanding Bylaws to see if Executive Session can be allowed remotely.

Advocacy & Government Relations Committee:

Chairperson: Angelique Volpe
Committee Members: John Camera, Brenna Dillon, Jessica Ramirez
Co-Administrators: Dr. MaryJane Garibay and Dr. Richard Beck

- Angelique Volpe reported that live streaming is moving along nicely; she thanked the administration for making this possible.
- Happy to report that the Student liaisons to the BOE is underway; nine (9) students have applied. Dr. Garibay will meet to discuss next steps. This is a fantastic opportunity to improve public speaking, communication skills; this will certainly help our students with future challenges.

Ad-Hoc Committee for the Arts, Sports, & Extracurricular Activities:

Chairperson: Vincent Rugnetta
Committee Members: Brenna Dillon, Jessica Ramirez, Kevin Walsh
Administrator: Dr. MaryJane Garibay

- Vincent Rugnetta noted that the committee will be meeting on the 21st.

Board Member Liaisons:

Brenna Dillon - Parent Advisory Committee

- The next Parent Advisory Committee meetings are on February 26th and 27th.
- The next Parent Academy is scheduled for February 22nd and the topic is SEL.

Amy Dimes - Colts Neck PTO

- Invitations went out for the Spring Gala on March 21st at the SouthGate Manor. There will be a VIP hour from 5-6 for those who wish to preview the baskets, have priority valet parking and a little more intimate cocktail hour. Almost \$21,000 has been raised already.
- Student activities are well on their way.
- Read-A-Thon coming up; information has gone home with the students.

Jessica Ramirez inquired how the \$21,000 compares to last year. Mrs. Dimes indicated that last year so far was the most that was ever raised.

John Camera - Colts Neck Township Committee

- Attended the last meeting; it was very interesting.

- Kevin Walsh - Colts Neck Township Senior Citizens
- Met with several representatives of the Seniors

State & County School Boards Association Representative:
Angelique Volpe - Attended the Mandatory Governance I training on February 23-25 along with Mr. Walsh. Happy with the transition to a Board of a Whole.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

- Dr. Garibay reported:
- Wished everyone a happy Valentine’s Day and the 100th day of school.
 - February is American Heart Month; the Physical Education departments have various activities and challenges planned.
 - February is also Black History Month. The students will be celebrating the many accomplishments and historical contributions of black individuals.
 - Thanked the Colts Neck Department of Public Works and the district’s custodians and maintenance staff regarding inclement weather. The goal is always to operate the regular calendar; decisions to delay or close are not ones that are made without much discussion or research.
 - ’23-24 School Calendar will require revision to account for recent snow days as only two (2) emergency days were built into the calendar and the district has now used three (3) days.
 - Parent Conferences are on February 28th and 29th.
 - Recognized the retirements of Janet Baccash, Occupational Therapist and Christine MacLeod, CDMS teacher. Appreciate their time, effort and dedication to the district.

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Superintendent’s Report on Enrollment, Fire/Security Drills and Student Suspensions for the 2023-2024 School Year, as of January 31, 2024. [\(Attachment # S-1\)](#)

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT
2. The Superintendent will report on investigations of incidents of harassment, intimidation and bullying (“HIB”) occurring during the following period:

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT ON INVESTIGATIONS OF HIB INCIDENTS

Period	Number of Investigations Reported	Number of Incidents HIB Was Found to Occur
1/1/24 - 1/15/24	1	0

COMMENTS FROM ATTENDING CONSTITUENTS – ALL SUBJECTS

Mallory Reardon, 165 Laird Road - advised that the Senate Bill 2421 was removed from the Senate agenda for tomorrow. This now gives members additional time to review it and discuss possible language changes to the letter mentioned by the Board President earlier.

Karin Londono, CNTEA President - inquired as to why Mr. Camera’s proposed letter in response to Senate Bill 2421 was not included as a communication/attachment. Mr. Camera commented that it was drafted late in the day. Mrs. Londono also inquired whether Mr. Camera will still be seeking legal counsel on the matter of whether there is an obligation or protocol to note that the letter is being supported by a majority of the Board, not the full Board.

ACTION ITEMS

1.

It was moved by Jessica Ramirez, seconded by Jason Orrico and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to approve the acknowledgement that there is no Superintendent’s Action for HIB/Non-HIB investigations, as reported at its meeting of January 24, 2024, for the period commencing December 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 wherein no incidents were reported.
- ACKNOWLEDGMENT
OF NO ACTION BY
SUPERINTENDENT

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

2.

It was moved by Jessica Ramirez, seconded by Jason Orrico and carried on a roll call vote to approve the following evaluation, as indicated below:
- EVALUATIONS

Student #	Type of Evaluation	Performed By	Cost Not to Exceed
20320128	Neurodevelopmental	Dr. Sell	\$600.00
20240860	Psychiatric	Dr. Tintorer	\$500.00
20300104	Neurodevelopmental	Dr. Sell	\$600.00

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia (Neurodevelopmental evaluations), Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Abstain: Alison DeNoia (Psychiatric evaluation only)

Absent: Brenna Dillon

3.

It was moved by Jessica Ramirez, seconded by Jason Orrico and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to approve the acceptance, with gratitude, of a donation from the Teeter Family of a Yamaha piano in the fall of 2023 for the music program at Cedar Drive Middle School, with an approximate value of \$7,740.
- DONATION
ACCEPTANCE

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

4. It was moved by Jessica Ramirez, seconded by Jason Orrico and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to approve the submission of the Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement between Education and Law Enforcement Officials for the 2023-2024 school year as required by N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.2(b)13 through 14 (on file in the Superintendent's Office).

MEMORANDUM OF
AGREEMENT
BETWEEN EDUCATION
AND LAW
ENFORCEMENT
OFFICIALS -
2023-2024 SCHOOL
YEAR

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

5. It was moved by Jessica Ramirez, seconded by Jason Orrico and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to approve the following field trips, as indicated below:

FIELD TRIP

Participants/Location	Trip / Location	Date
Grade 7 Students Cedar Drive Middle School	Teaching Importance of Heart Health with Grade 3 Students/Conover Road Elementary School	2/23/24
Grade 8 Students Cedar Drive Middle School	Unified PE Program/Alpha School Jackson, NJ	3/4/24 3/15/24
Grade 8 Students Cedar Drive Middle School	Edu-Musical for Italian Class/New Brunswick PAC New Brunswick, NJ	3/13/24
Grade 4 Students Conover Road Elementary School	Jenkinson's Aquarium/Point Pleasant, NJ	3/14/24
Grade 8 Students Cedar Drive Middle School	Unified PE Program/Harbor School Eatontown, NJ	3/25/24 3/26/24
Grade 6 Students Cedar Drive Middle School	NJ State Museum/Trenton, NJ	5/28/24

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

6. It was moved by Jessica Ramirez, seconded by Jason Orrico and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to approve the amendment to the resolution adopted at the September 6, 2023 Regular Meeting for the school calendar for the 2023-2024 school year. [\(Attachment # S-2\)](#)
- AMENDED 2023-2024
SCHOOL YEAR
CALENDAR

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS/SAFETY AND SECURITY

None

CURRICULUM

1. It was moved by Alison DeNoia, seconded by Vincent Rugnetta and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to approve the reimbursable expenses in accordance with Policy #6471/Regulation #6471. [\(Attachment # C-1\)](#)
- REIMBURSABLE
EXPENSES

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

2. It was moved by Alison DeNoia, seconded by Vincent Rugnetta and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to approve the following field observation assignment for the 2023-2024 school year, as indicated below:
- FIELD OBSERVATION

Student/College/ Number of Hours	Cooperating Staff Member/ Position/Location	Effective Date
Olivia Puzio/Monmouth University/60 hours	Kimberly Keller/ School Psychologist/Admin-CRPS	February 15, 2024- April 30, 2024

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

FINANCE

1. It was moved by Alison DeNoia, seconded by Angelique Volpe and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to approve the transfer of funds for the month of December, 2023 for the 2023-2024 school year. ([Attachment # F-1](#)) TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

2. It was moved by Alison DeNoia, seconded by Angelique Volpe and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to approve the Board Secretary's Report as of December 31, 2023. ([Attachment # F-2](#)) BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT

RESOLVED, Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)3, the Board Secretary certifies that as of December 31, 2023, no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in the total exceed the amount appropriated by the Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8 and 18A:22-8.1.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)4, we certify that as of December 31, 2023 the Board Secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) did not reflect an over expenditure in any of the major accounts or funds, and based on the appropriation balances reflected on this report and the advice of 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.

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

3. It was moved by Alison DeNoia, seconded by Angelique Volpe and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to approve the Report of the Treasurer of School Monies as of December 31, 2023. ([Attachment # F-3](#)) TREASURER'S REPORT

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

4. It was moved by Alison DeNoia, seconded by Angelique Volpe and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to approve the Bill List dated February 14, 2024 in the amount of \$3,408,814.64 and Food Service payments in the amount of \$40,988.44.

BILL LIST
FOOD SERVICE
PAYMENTS

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

5. It was moved by Alison DeNoia, seconded by Angelique Volpe and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to approve the Food Service Financial Report for the month of December, 2023.

FOOD SERVICE
FINANCIAL REPORT

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

6. It was moved by Alison DeNoia, seconded by Angelique Volpe and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to approve the acceptance of the New Jersey Schools Development Authority ("SDA") Fiscal Year 2024 funding award in the amount of \$22,496, to address emergent and capital maintenance projects. Funds will be recorded in the Special Revenue Fund (Revenue a/c: 20-3257, Expenditure a/c: 20-492-xxx-xxx). The Board authorizes the Board Secretary to submit a signed Certification that the funds will be used for an appropriate purpose, a copy of which is retained in the Business Office.

ACCEPTANCE OF NJ
SCHOOLS
DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY ("SDA")
FUNDS

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

7. It was moved by Alison DeNoia, seconded by Angelique Volpe and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to approve the following resolution:

SPECIAL EDUCATION
MEDICAID INITIATIVE
(SEMI) PROGRAM
FOR THE 2024-2025
SCHOOL YEAR

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3(b) provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district's participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2024-2025 school year, and

WHEREAS, the Colts Neck Township Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having fewer than forty (40) Medicaid eligible classified students.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Colts Neck Township Board of Education hereby authorizes the Chief School Administrator to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Monmouth an appropriate waiver of the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3(b) for the 2024-2025 school year

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

8. It was moved by Alison DeNoia, seconded by Angelique Volpe and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to approve the appropriation of \$12,542 of 2022-2023 NJ State Extraordinary Aid to increase the following budgetary accounts, effective January 31, 2024, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-13.3(d):
- APPROPRIATION OF
2022-2023
EXTRAORDINARY
AID

Budgetary Account	Description	Amount
11-000-266-420-xxx	Security intercom upgrade 3 bldgs.	\$8,800
11-000-252-500-000-800-0	Enterprise hardware licenses	\$3,662
	TOTAL:	\$12,542

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

POLICY

1. It was moved by Jessica Ramirez, seconded by Jason Orrico and carried on a roll call vote to approve the first reading of the following policies and regulations, as indicated below: (Attachment # P-1 - # P-2)
- FIRST READING
OF POLICIES AND
REGULATIONS

Attachment #P-1	Bylaw 0143.2 Student Representative to the Board of Education
Attachment #P-2	Regulation 2330 - Homework

Mrs. DeNoia inquired what process was used to determine the proposed revisions were needed. Mr. Camera indicated that after reviewing the feedback from the stakeholders, he made a recommendation to the Superintendent to place the item on the agenda. Mrs. DeNoia commented that this seems to be very much a Board of one as opposed to a Board of a whole.

Mrs. Volpe commented that she also had input on the revisions and is in favor of the changes as students should be able to complete assignments in the morning.

Mrs. Dimes commented that the revisions proposed affect # 6 of the Regulation, as they do not provide teachers adequate time to prepare their lessons for the next day. This was also specifically discussed when the Curriculum Committee and the Policy Committee previously reviewed this policy/regulation. Mrs. Dimes further commented that it is her belief that making these changes goes against sections c, d, and e, of the Code of Ethics for School Board Members. She noted that this proposed revision was provided to the full Board at 3pm and placed on a 'Bold' Revised Agenda, not allowing enough time for review and discussion and is not in conformity to the platform of transparency, on which Mr. Camera based his election campaign on.

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia (Attachment #P-1), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta (Attachment #P-1), Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: Alison DeNoia (Attachment #P-2), Amy Dimes (remote) and Vincent Rugnetta (Attachment #P-2)

Absent: Brenna Dillon

2. It was moved by Jessica Ramirez, seconded by Jason Orrico and carried on a roll call vote to approve the following policies and regulations, as indicated below: (Attachment # P-3)

ADOPTION OF
POLICIES AND
REGULATIONS

Attachment #P-3	Regulation 0155 - Board Committees
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Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

NEGOTIATIONS

None

TRANSPORTATION

None

PERSONNEL

1. It was moved by Vincent Rugnetta, seconded by Jason Orrico and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to approve the acceptance of the retirement of the following staff member, with regret, as indicated below: RETIREMENT

Name	Position/Location	Effective Date
Janet Baccash	Occupational Therapist Part Time/Conover Road Elementary School	7/1/24
Christine MacLeod	Teacher/Conover Road Elementary School	7/1/24

The Board expresses its appreciation and gratitude to Janet Baccash for her fourteen (14) years of faithful service to the children and the district and further wishes her good health and much happiness during her retirement.

The Board expresses its appreciation and gratitude to Christine MacLeod for her thirty-five (35) years of faithful service to the children and the district and further wishes her good health and much happiness during her retirement.

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

2. It was moved by Vincent Rugnetta, seconded by Jason Orrico and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to approve the amendment to the resignation, adopted at the January 3, 2024 Regular Meeting for following staff member, as indicated below: AMENDED RESIGNATION

Name	Position/Location	From	To
Karen Blaser	Instructional Assistant Cedar Drive Middle School	2/13/24	2/1/24

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

3. It was moved by Vincent Rugnetta, seconded by Jason Orrico and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to approve the employment of the following individual for the 2023-2024 school year, as indicated below:

EMPLOYMENT:
INSTRUCTIONAL
ASSISTANT
2023-2024 SCHOOL
YEAR

Name	Position/Location/ Account No.	Effective Dates	Hours/Number of Days/Step/Hourly Rate/Salary
* Nicolette Magnifico (Replacing Karen Blaser, who resigned)	Instructional Assistant/ Conover Road Primary School (11-000-217-106-060-100-0)	3/1/24 – 6/30/24	6.75 Hours Daily 184 Days Step 2 \$15.19 Per Hour \$18,865 Per Annum, *Prorated

* Pending criminal history review and receipt of prior employment verification

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

4. It was moved by Vincent Rugnetta, seconded by Jason Orrico and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to approve the change in the placement on the salary guide for the 2023-2024 school year for the following staff member due to education advancement, effective February 1, 2024, as indicated below:

MOVEMENT ON
GUIDE
2023-2024 SCHOOL
YEAR

Name/Position/Location	From	To
	Guide/Step/Salary Effective Dates	Guide/Step/Salary Effective Dates
Christine Bakos/Teacher Cedar Drive Middle School	MA/16 \$95,281 9/1/23-06/30/24	MA+30/16 \$98,381 2/1/24-06/30/24

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

5. It was moved by Vincent Rugnetta, seconded by Jason Orrico and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to approve the appointment of the additional staff member to serve in the following position listed below, in the After School Remediation/Enrichment Program for the 2023-2024 school year, at an hourly rate of \$52, for a total number of hours not to exceed 714 hours for all staff members combined, for a total amount not to exceed \$37,128* for all staff members combined, as indicated below:

ADDITIONAL AFTER
SCHOOL
REMEDATION/
ENRICHMENT
PROGRAM
INSTRUCTOR:
2023-2024
SCHOOL YEAR

Staff Member	Location	Position
Heather Silverberg	Conover Road Primary School	Instructor

*Funded by ESSER III (20-490-100-101-000-100-0)

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

6. It was moved by Vincent Rugnetta, seconded by Jason Orrico and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to approve the amendment to the medical disability leave, adopted at the December 13, 2023 Regular Meeting, for Ryan White, Occupational Therapist at Conover Road Primary School, during the 2023-2024 school year, as indicated below:

AMENDED MEDICAL
DISABILITY LEAVE
2023-2024 SCHOOL
YEAR

From	To	Leave Type
9/1/23 - 2/1/24	9/1/23 - 1/31/24	<p>Medical Disability-FMLA – with health care benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• FMLA – paid with healthcare benefits (using sick days from 9/1/23 through 10/27/23)• FMLA – paid with healthcare benefits (using sick days from 10/28/23 through 11/10/23)• FMLA – paid with healthcare benefits (using sick days from 11/11/23 through 11/26/23)• NON FMLA – paid with healthcare benefits (using sick days from 11/27/23 through 12/3/23)• NON FMLA – paid (using sick days from 11/27/23 through 11/30/23)• NON FMLA - unpaid (12/1/23 through 2/1/24)• NON FMLA - unpaid (12/1/23 through 1/31/24)

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Abstain: Vincent Rugnetta

Absent: Brenna Dillon

7. It was moved by Vincent Rugnetta, seconded by Jason Orrico and carried on a roll call vote to approve the amendment to the medical disability leave, adopted at the December 13, 2023 Regular Meeting, for Dolores Pollak, Teacher at Cedar Drive Middle School, during the 2023-2024 school year, as indicated below:

AMENDED MEDICAL
DISABILITY LEAVE
2023-2024 SCHOOL
YEAR

From	To	Leave Type
1/8/24 - 1/19/24	1/8/24 - 2/6/24	FMLA – paid with healthcare benefits (Using sick days from 1/8/24 through 2/6/24)

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Abstain: Vincent Rugnetta

Absent: Brenna Dillon

8. It was moved by Vincent Rugnetta, seconded by Jason Orrico and carried on a roll call vote to approve the appointment of the following Cedar Drive Middle School staff members to serve as extracurricular advisors/coaches for the following spring sports and non-sport activities at Cedar Drive Middle School during the 2023-2024 school year, as indicated below:

EXTRACURRICULAR
ADVISORS:
CEDAR DRIVE
MIDDLE SCHOOL
2023-2024 SCHOOL
YEAR

Name	Position	Amount Not To Exceed
Steven Ricci	Boys’ Baseball	\$3,494
Dolores Pollak	Girls’ Softball	\$3,494
Patricia Straman♦ Marjorie Maguire♦	Co-ed Tennis (Co-Advisors)	\$3,494
Joseph Truisi	Spring Track - Boys	\$3,494
Laila Tlack	Spring Track - Girls	\$3,494

♦Stipend split equally between Co-Advisors

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica

Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

9. It was moved by Vincent Rugnetta, seconded by Jason Orrico and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to approve the amending of the approval of the appointment for the following individual adopted at the October 4, 2024 Regular Meeting to serve as an advisor to the Conover Road Elementary School Fall After-School Intramural Program for the 2023-2024 school year, once a week, at an hourly rate of \$47, with each session to run sixty (60) minutes, at an amount not to exceed \$47 per session, as indicated below:

AMENDED 2023-2024
SCHOOL YEAR FALL
AFTER-SCHOOL
INTRAMURAL
PROGRAM
ADVISORS:
CONOVER ROAD
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL

Name	Activity♦	Number of Sessions From	Number of Sessions To	Total Amount Not To Exceed From	Total Amount Not To Exceed To
Kayla Diorio	PE with Ms.D	8	9	\$376	\$423

♦ An individual activity will only run if the required minimum number of students sign up for the activity

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

10. It was moved by Vincent Rugnetta, seconded by Jason Orrico and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to approve the appointment of the following Conover Road Elementary School staff members to serve as chaperones for the following Conover Road Elementary School events during the 2023-2024 school year, at an amount not to exceed \$80 for each staff member, as indicated below:

CONOVER ROAD
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL
CHAPERONES
2023-2024 SCHOOL
YEAR

Name	Event	Date
Krystyana Hubbard	Choir Concert	3/26/24
Jeffrey Brown Jennifer Caga-Collett Cheryl Chandler Anne Rauso	Beginning & Advanced Band Concert	3/26/24

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

11. It was moved by Vincent Rugnetta, seconded by Jason Orrico and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to approve the appointment of the following Cedar Drive Middle School staff members to serve as chaperones for the following Cedar Drive Middle School events during the 2023-2024 school year, at an amount not to exceed \$80 for each staff member, as indicated below:

CEDAR DRIVE
MIDDLE SCHOOL
CHAPERONES
2023-2024 SCHOOL
YEAR

Name	Event	Date
Elizabeth Bufano	School Play	3/8/24
Tatiana Burgos		3/9/24
Carol J. Burtnick		
Kathleen Godlesky		
Marissa Granato		
Jessica Grippaldi		
Anthony Higuera		
Krystiana Hubbard		
Laila Tlack		
Joseph Truise		
Christine Bakos	Trivia Bowl	3/11/24
Kathleen Godlesky		
Anthony Higuera		
Laila Tlack		
Carrie Zanyor		

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

12. It was moved by Vincent Rugnetta, seconded by Jason Orrico and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to approve the amendment to the resolution adopted at the January 3, 2024 Regular Meeting for the following staff member to serve as a home instructor for Student #20240025, at an hourly rate of \$52, for a total number of hours per week not to exceed seven (7):

AMENDED HOME
INSTRUCTION FOR
2023-2024 SCHOOL
YEAR

Name	From:	To:
Suzanne Cooper	9/26/23 - 2/22/24	9/26/23 - 4/22/24

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

13. It was moved by Vincent Rugnetta, seconded by Jason Orrico and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to approve the appointment of the following individual to the Substitute Teacher list for the 2023-2024 school year, at a salary of \$125 per day on an as needed basis, pending approval of criminal history review.

SUBSTITUTE
TEACHERS:
2023-2024 SCHOOL
YEAR

Name	Certification
Thomas Chadwick	Pending Substitute Credential
Madison Suarez	Substitute Credential

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

14. It was moved by Vincent Rugnetta, seconded by Jason Orrico and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to approve the appointment of the following individuals to the list of Substitute Support Staff for the 2023-2024 school year, on an as needed basis, pending approval of criminal history review:

SUBSTITUTE
SUPPORT STAFF:
2023-2024 SCHOOL
YEAR

Name	Position	Hourly Rate
Deborah Zeppetella	Substitute Instructional Assistant	\$15.13
Deborah Zeppetella	Substitute Secretary	\$15.13
MaryBeth DiStefano	Substitute Transportation Aide	\$15.13

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

15. It was moved by Vincent Rugnetta, seconded by Jason Orrico and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to approve the employment of the following individual for the 2023-2024 school year, as indicated below:

EMPLOYMENT:
LUNCH-RECESS
AIDE
2023-2024 SCHOOL
YEAR

Name	Position/Location/ Account No.	Effective Dates	Hours/Number of Days/Step/Hourly Rate/Salary
*Raymond De Fazio	Lunch-Recess	3/16/24	2.5 Hours Daily

(Replacing Yasuko McQuagge, who resigned)	Aide/Conover Road Elementary School (11-000-262-107-000-100-1)	– 6/30/24	173 Days Step 2 \$15.14 Per Hour \$ 6,548Per Annum
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* Pending criminal history review and receipt of prior employment verification

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon

NEW BUSINESS/WORK SESSION AGENDA

1. Mr. Camera briefly spoke about the topic of advertising on school property. This is something that the Board will be looking into and Dr. Garibay is already looking at other districts' policies regarding the same.
2. Dr. Timothy Teehan made a presentation to the Board providing information on working as a Committee of the Whole vs. Board Committees. Informational handouts were distributed to each Board member.

EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION (N.J.S.A. 10:4-9,12)

No Executive Session was held.

ADJOURNMENT

At approximately 8:22 p.m., it was moved by Vincent Rugnetta, seconded by Jessica Ramirez and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to adjourn the meeting.

Yes: John Camera, Alison DeNoia, Amy Dimes (remote), Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: Brenna Dillon and Jason Orrico

REFERENCE SHEET	
Attachment # S-1	Enrollment, Fire/Security Drills and Student Suspensions as of January 31, 2024
Attachment # C-1	Reimbursable Expenses
Attachment # F-1	Transfers for the Month of December, 2023
Attachment # F-2	Board Secretary's Report as of December 31, 2023
Attachment # F-3	Treasurer's Report as of December 31, 2023

Attachment # P-1	First Read - Bylaw 0143.2 - Student Representative to the Board of Education
Attachment # P-2	First Read - Regulation 2330 - Homework
Attachment # P-3	Adoption - Bylaw 0155 - Board Committees

BOARD MEETINGS*			
March 13, 2024	May 29, 2024	August 14, 2024	October 30, 2024
March 27, 2024	June 12, 2024	August 28, 2024	November 13, 2024
April 10, 2024	June 26, 2024	September 11, 2024	December 11, 2024
April 24, 2024	July 10, 2024	September 25, 2024	December 18, 2024
May 7, 2024 (CRPS Cafeteria)	July 31, 2024	October 9, 2024	January 8, 2025 @ 6:00 (Organization Meeting)

* All Regular Board Meetings will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administration Building unless otherwise noted and advertised.

2024		
Thursday	February 15	Short Session Day for Students Full Day for Staff with In-Service After Student Dismissal
Friday - Monday	February 16-19	Presidents' Weekend – Schools/Central Office Closed
Wednesday	February 28	Short Session Day – Parent/Teacher Conferences (Afternoon)
Thursday	February 29	Short Session Day – Parent/Teacher Conferences (Afternoon & Evening)
Friday	March 1	Short Session Day for Students & Staff
Thursday	March 28	Short Session Day - Students & Staff
Friday - Friday	March 29 - April 5	Spring Recess – Schools/Central Office Closed
Monday	April 8	Schools Reopen
Monday - Tuesday	April 22-23	Passover - Schools/Central Office Closed
Friday	May 24	Short Session Day for Students Full Day for Staff with In-Service After Student Dismissal
Monday	May 27	Memorial Day - Schools/Central Office Closed
Thursday	June 20	Short Session Day for Students Full Day for Staff
Friday	June 21	Last Day of School Short Session Day for Students & Staff CDMS Graduation TBD

Respectfully Submitted,

Vincent S. Marasco

Vincent S. Marasco

School Business Administrator/Board Secretary