

**FORT LEE BOARD OF EDUCATION
FORT LEE, NEW JERSEY**

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Monday, January 23, 2012

Library, School No. 1 – 250 Hoym St.

1. The Regular Business Meeting was called to order at 8:05 PM by Mr. Arthur W. Levine, President of the Fort Lee Board of Education.
2. Mrs. Angela Napolitano, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
3. Public Announcement by the President of the Board of Education:
The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice 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 the Act, the Fort Lee Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, and place thereof posted in the entrance hall of the Board Office, 255 Whiteman Street; published in the Board's designated newspapers: Fort Lee Patch.com, The Record, The Star Ledger, The Suburbanite; filed with the Clerk of the Borough of Fort Lee; and mailed to all persons, if any, who have requested said notice.

4. **ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Mr. John Bang, Mr. Carmelo Luppino, Jr., Mrs. Linda McCue, (left at 8:15)
Mrs. Angela Napolitano, Mr. Yusang Park, Mr. Peter Suh, Mr. Joseph Surace,
Ms. Helen Yoon and Mr. Arthur W. Levine

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Steven Engravalle, Mrs. Cheryl Balletto, and Mr. Matthew Giacobbe, Esq.

ABSENT:

5. **REPORT OF THE ACTING SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

- ◆ The Security Audit will be rescheduled due to icy conditions in Pennsylvania.
- ◆ LEC Middle School students have a New Jersey Radon Contest and Mr. Zellman will have a poster contest.
- ◆ The Fort Lee Commission will have a video of this board meeting and the February 6, 2012 board meeting. The following meetings will be held in the Fort Lee High School auditorium.
- ◆ ___ gave a report on the resolutions.
- ◆ ___ gave a report on the Emergency Computer Map Program.
- ◆ Mr. Joseph Surace stated that he would like the phone numbers for the Junior Football Program.
- ◆ Mr. Steven Engravalle thanked the Mayor, Council, Mrs. Cheryl Balletto, Mrs. Ana Flores, Mr. Jack De Nichilo, Mr. Johnny Arroyo, Mr. Sal Bordonaro, Mr. Tony Giambona, Secretaries in Central Office, PTA Presidents, other supportive community members, Mr. David Sarnoff, Mr. Howard Pearl, the Technical Staff, Bergen Record, Patch.com, NY 1 and Social Media Monsters.
- ◆ Mr. Arthur Levine stated that the United Homeowners thank you and Mr. George Porto who sent out emails.

6. **REPORT OF THE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES-None**

7. **BOARD SECRETARY REPORT – DECEMBER 2011**

- ◆ For the month of December 2011.

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| | Motion by Mr. Carmelo Luppino | Seconded by Mr. Peter Suh | |
| | To approve the Board Secretary Report for the month of December 2011. | On roll call, Motion carried. | |

8. **APPROVAL OF MONTHLY BUDGET STATUS CERTIFICATION**

- ◆ For the month of December 2011.

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| | Motion by Mrs. Linda McCue | Seconded by Mrs. Angela Napolitano | |
| | To approve the Monthly Budget Status Certification for the month December 2011. | On roll call, Motion carried. | |

9. **PUBLIC WORK SESSION**

- ◆ _____ stated that the search committee has retained Leadership Advantage as our Superintendent Search Firm and has reduced the fee to \$9,500.

10. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- ◆ Minutes from the Executive Session and Regular Business Meeting on January 9, 2012.

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| | Motion by Mrs. Angela Napolitano | Seconded by Mr. Carmelo Luppino | |
| | To Approve Minutes from the Executive Session and Regular Business Meeting on January 9, 2012. | On roll call, Motion carried. Mrs. Linda McCue abstained. | |

11. **QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS LISTED ON TONIGHT'S AGENDA AND ANY OTHER TOPIC OF CONCERN**

- ◆ Mr. George Porto asked about Resolution #3B and how long will it be till we see results. He also asked about Resolution 1B&G the Energy Savings Audit and what does the \$100,000 mean.
- ◆ ___ asked about Resolution #5P and 6P and will Fort Lee be sending students to Leonia and are there maps that will be updated?
- ◆ Mr. Steven Engravalle stated that we are the first in the country to have this. We can map roofs, underground tunnels and if we move classrooms we can update it.
- ◆ Mr. Howard Lipoff stated that in Resolution #1HWS does FLEA state the fee is \$30. per hour?
- ◆ Mrs. Mildred Federico asked if ___ is usable with Apple devises and does the school district have Apple devices?
- ◆ Mr. Steven Engravalle stated that we can digitize and the laptop is on loan. Many responders have a smart device. We will revise and will work with droid.
- ◆ Ms. Diane ___ that this is not a discussion and is supposed to be an open process. We want to hear what people think.
- ◆ ___ stated that they have a good reputation and have worked with us before.
- ◆ Dr. Nina Levinson asked if the top three runners for the Superintendent position be addressed to the public.
- ◆ Mr. David Sarnoff stated that the law signed an option to move the election.

- ◆ Mr. Matthew Giacobbe stated that they will deliberate in public and the synopsis will move to November and if there is 2% or under then there is no vote. The school district runs from July to June and the vote on November means that the money can't be spent till January.
- ◆ Mr. David Sarnoff thanked the support of the homeowners, the board and the efforts of the the PTA and emails which linked to other information. He stated that he doesn't read patch and the turnout is crucial. He urged all board members to get out into the community and hopes everyone makes calls to pass this referendum.
- ◆ Mrs. Nancy Stern stated that Mr. David Sarnoff moved many districts that put on the discussion with the public and would like to suggest that Fort Lee does the same. This is a four year decision and there is a lot to consider. It can be a mayor and council or petition.
- ◆ Mr. Arthur Levine stated that it will be addressed at the next meeting.
- ◆ Mrs. Nancy Stern who is on the Superintendent Search Committee.
- ◆ Mr. Arthur Levine stated that Mr. John Bang, Mr. Peter Suh, Mr. Joseph Surace and he is on the committee. There is a three month period and there will be a finalist forum.
- ◆ Mr. Paul Umrichin stated that School #3 custodians do not clean the kitchen. The High School Foreign Language teacher was hired and an Italian Program late last year. They are behind. Students were told to come to class and sit there for two hours. The Intro to Business teacher has no guidance and no books for class. It is a lecture class and the board should look into this.
- ◆ ___ stated that the Freshman Academy has a great idea and the girls hate it. They are reverting to gold and silver stars and are treated like babies. Mrs. Giacomelli does a great job.
- ◆ Mr. Howard Pearl stated that Mr. Joseph Surace has phone numbers and would love the comment. They should send out the school messenger and post on the website. The police keep the database and don't know if it is allowed to be shared. At the last board meeting it was said that we would have a firm for the next board meeting. We blame you and the other attorney. I drop my so off at the High School and every time at least three people make illegal u-turns. I also help out at School #1 and the same 50-60 students are late every day. There should be an email sent to the parents that the students should be brought to school on time.
- ◆ Mr. Joseph Surace stated that the reason should be made on the phone numbers and we are missing 300 numbers.
- ◆ Mr. Steven Engravalle stated that we do have situations where parents won't give their work number to the schools.
- ◆ Mr. Arthur Levine stated that this is frustrating and frightening. Society would be a better place if the parents would be responsible.
- ◆ Mr. John Bang stated that tomorrow is an important day. We should shout out to Kristina Yoo and Ms. Ma for visiting the senior apartments, doing a phone bank and Alex Chung for putting together the High School volunteers to call since a lot of people are working.

12. **RESOLUTIONS AND REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

| <u>Board Committee</u> | | | | | |
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| #1B | Approval – Resolution Regarding School District Report Of Incidents Of Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying | | | | |
| #3B | Approval – Appointment Of A Superintendent Search Firm | | | | |
| | <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Motion by Mr. Carmelo Luppino</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Seconded by Mrs. Angela Napolitano</td> </tr> <tr> <td>To Approve #1B & #3B Resolution #2B was pulled.</td> <td>On roll call, Motion carried.</td> </tr> </table> | Motion by Mr. Carmelo Luppino | Seconded by Mrs. Angela Napolitano | To Approve #1B & #3B Resolution #2B was pulled. | On roll call, Motion carried. |
| Motion by Mr. Carmelo Luppino | Seconded by Mrs. Angela Napolitano | | | | |
| To Approve #1B & #3B Resolution #2B was pulled. | On roll call, Motion carried. | | | | |

| <u>Buildings and Grounds</u> | | |
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| #1B&G | Approval – Energy Savings Audit | |
| | Motion by Mr. Carmelo Luppino To Approve #1B&G | Seconded by Mr. Joseph Surace On roll call, Motion carried. |

| <u>Curriculum Committee</u> | | |
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| #1CUR | Approval – Approval Of Class Trips At A Cost To District Of \$325.00 | |
| #2CUR | Approval – High School Program Of Studies | |
| | Motion by Mr. Arthur Levine To Approve #1CUR & #2CUR | Seconded by Mr. Peter Suh On roll call, Motion carried. |

| <u>Finance</u> | | |
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| #1F | Approval – Current Bills List Totaling \$208,988.97 | |
| #2F | Approval – Cafeteria Claims For December 2011 Totaling \$98,647.33 | |
| #3F | Approval – Extended School Day Program Claims For December 2011 Totaling \$6,361.00 | |
| #4F | Approval – Line Item Transfers For December 2011 | |
| #5F | Acceptance Of Donations Totaling \$955.00 | |
| | Motion by Mr. Joseph Surace To Approve #1F - #5F | Seconded by Mr. Peter Suh On roll call, Motion carried. |

| <u>Health-Welfare and Safety</u> | | |
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| #1HWS | Approval – Payment of Home Instruction Services | |
| #2HWS | Approval – Appointment of ABA Related-Service Provider | |
| | Motion by Mr. Carmelo Luppino To Approve #1HWS & #2HWS | Seconded by Mrs. Angela Napolitano On roll call, Motion carried. |

| <u>Personnel</u> | | |
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| #1P | Approval – Staff Trips and Conferences | |
| #2P | Approval – Retirement of Joyce Krieger as School Nurse at School No. 2 | |
| #3P | Approval – Retirement of Phyllis Citrin as High School Science Teacher | |
| #4P | Approval – Resignation of Lucie Iuzzolino as Leave Replacement | |

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| | (For Foreign Language Teacher) at Fort Lee High School | |
| #5P | Approval – Resignation of Peter Wood as Part-Time Classroom Aide at Lewis F. Cole Middle School | |
| #6P | Approval – Resignation of Angela Rodriquez as Part-Time Preschool 1:1 Aide at Fort Lee Early Childhood Center | |
| #7P | Approval – Maternity Leave for Jenny Mccann as Elemetary Teacher at School No. 4 | |
| #8P | Approval – Maternity Leave Kathleen Weissman-Wei as Preschool Teacher at Fort Lee Early Childhood Center | |
| #9P | Approval – Appointment of Rachel Smith as Leave Replacement at School No. 4 | |
| #10P | Approval – Appointment of ABA Home Instructors | |
| #11P | Approval – Appointment of Additional Co-Curricular Personnel for the 2011-2012 School Year | |
| | Motion by Mr. Peter Suh To Approve #1P - #11P | Seconded by Mrs. Angela Napolitano On roll call, Motion carried. |

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| Policy | | |
| #1POL | Approval - First Reading of Policy/Regulation Updates | |
| | Motion by Mrs. Angela Napolitano To Approve #1POL | Seconded by Mr. Peter Suh On roll call, Motion carried. |

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| #1T | Approval – Disposal of Equipment | |
| | Motion by Mr. Carmelo Luppino To Approve #1T | Seconded by Mrs. Angela Napolitano On roll call, Motion carried. |

13. At approximately 9:40 PM, Mrs. Linda McCue, offered, Mr. Carmelo Luppino, seconded by, to close the Regular Business meeting. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.
- ◆ Mrs. Angela Napolitano stated that she is not supportive of the CAP. Past Superintendents have moved out or retired and it is time to look inside. Mr. Steven Engravalle is dedicated.
 - ◆ Mr. Peter Suh stated that it is important to be involved and see what is _____. We can affirm what a great job Mr. Engravalle is doing and he is the best person for the job.
 - ◆ _____ agrees with Angela, Peter and Linda. We think Steven Engravalle has done a great job.
 - ◆ Mr. Yusang Park stated that payment to the District Management Council for District Membership is needed to this organization. It’s like an association. His recommendation is of more value based out of _____ to gain access _____
 - ◆ Mr. Carmelo Luppino stated that comments are on the search firm and we did make a promise even though our new Superintendent is in this room. He hasn’t proven anything

but is hard working. The next Superintendent is in the house. We need to move on to hire an Assistant Superintendent and Director of Curriculum. If we give the time it is the wrong decision. We should not be taking a step backwards. It does take one year if we are going in the right direction. Let the audience influence our decision. I hope Steve applies since you are the best thing and have my confidence.

- ◆ Mr. John Bang said to please vote tomorrow and vote yes. The vote is 2 to 9.

14. At approximately 9:31 PM, Mr. Peter Suh, offered, Mr. Carmelo Luppino, seconded by, to adjourn the Regular Business meeting. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

Roll calls and resolutions of this meeting are attached.

Respectfully submitted,

CHERYL BALLETO
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY

CB/mp
Att.
1-25-12