

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

**REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, April 16, 2012

Auditorium, High School, 3000 Lemoine Ave.

1. The Regular Business Meeting was called to order at 8:05 PM by Mr. Arthur Levine, President of the Fort Lee Board of Education.
2. Mr. Carmelo Luppino, 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, 2175 Lemoine Avenue; 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, Mr. Yusang Park, Mr. Peter Suh, Mr. Joseph Surace, Ms. Helen Yoon and Mr. Arthur W. Levine  
  
ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Steven Engravalle, Dr. Sharon Amato, Mrs. Cheryl Balletto, and Mr. Matthew Giacobbe, Esq.  
  
ABSENT: Mrs. Angela Napolitano
5. **REPORT OF THE INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**
  - ◆ Bullying Contest
  - ◆ Pink Slime in the beef
  - ◆ Maria Pulice Fund
  - ◆ The Teacher of the Year was announced from each school except Schools #1 and #4 who was not there.
  - ◆ School #4 is a reward school with (NJDOE) the New Jersey Department of Education.
  - ◆ The Acting Commissioner visited School #2 today.
  - ◆ School #3 unfounded HIB Reports.
  - ◆ Resolution #2CUR was pulled for a miscalculation for the way it was deployed.
  - ◆ The Security Services are to be rebid.
  - ◆ The AOF Basketball tournament with the Chamber of Commerce will be on April 21, 2012 at the Fort Lee High School.
  - ◆ The Curriculum Meeting with Dr. Sharon Amato made a great impact.
6. **REPORT OF THE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES-None**
7. **PUBLIC WORK SESSION**
  - ◆ Mr. Yusang Park commented that the Curriculum Committee met last Thursday and was happy to have Dr. Sharon Amato on board. In November the Committee meeting met misalignments for grading was discussed. Each school had different standard for grading. Each school had different standards for honors. There were eighteen agenda items. The Curriculum was not up to date and the K-2 Math is in compliance.
  - ◆ Mr. Steven Engravalle stated that there are common core standards.

- ◆ Mr. Yusang Park stated that the solution is simple and we can go out and buy a prepackaged curriculum such as Pearson. The Extended School Day Program can be made more efficient and useful. What we find is wrong and then we will come out and tell you. The Special Education students which is disproportionate of Hispanic students that are classified. We need to look into a solution to use \$125,000 in IDEA funds. This is a condensed version of what we discussed. This Thursday parents are invited to see textbooks that may be purchased.

8. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- ◆ Minutes from the Executive Session and Regular Business Meeting on April 16, 2012.

	Motion by Mr. Carmelo Luppino	Seconded by Mr. Peter Suh	
	To Approve Minutes from the Executive Session and Regular Business Meeting on April 16, 2012.	On roll call, Motion carried. Mrs. Angela Napolitano was absent. Mr. Peter Suh and Ms. Helen Yoon abstained.	

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

- ◆ Mr. Howard Lipoff stated that the FLEA is supportive of Resolution #2B and the problems are with 1455. Our position is the same with the NJEA. We have the same objections as you and against the tenure reform. We urge you to vote at the NJEA organization.
- ◆ Dr. Nina Levinson stated that at the last meeting the Superintendent Search report was to be given to the public. When will that be? Also in Resolution #1B how many incidents have you had at each school? In Resolution #1HWS how many students were there? We wish the retiree happiness.
- ◆ Mr. Arthur Levine stated that the first question is directed to Mrs. Cheryl Balletto.
- ◆ Mrs. Cheryl Balletto stated that she wasn't at the public meeting either. She will contact Leadership Advantage.
- ◆ Ms. Stephanie Stuart stated that she believes in Mr. Robert Kravitz and Mr. Frank Romano who would be best for the Superintendent position.
- ◆ Ms. Stephanie Stuart asked if we can have the board meeting on You Tube. The Superintendent alienates the PTA's. She stated that Mr. Robert Kravitz has an entrepreneurial approach. Mr. Frank Romano should be the Superintendent and Mr. Robert Kravitz as Assistant Superintendent. Please give objectives.
- ◆ Ms. Christina Yoo asked what the status is on Pink Slime at Chartwells.
- ◆ Ms. Christina Yoo asked if there is any consideration in changing.
- ◆ Mrs. Mildred Federico asked about Resolution #6P and if the board is rescinding the stipend paid?
- ◆ Mrs. Cheryl Balletto answered yes from the period November 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012, nothing is being paid back.
- ◆ Mrs. Diane Sicari asked about Resolution #2B&G and if the Board of Education is going for security services and when will they be coming to give a presentation on security?
- ◆ Mrs. Cheryl Balletto stated that the Security Bid had expired.
- ◆ Mr. Arthur Levine asked if a Special Board Meeting could be scheduled for security.
- ◆ Mr. Carmelo Luppino stated that the board did it in the Private Meeting and now we need to inform the public.
- ◆ Mrs. Paula Colbath stated that the textbooks can be done in one download if we could get them. She also questioned Resolution #4CUR and asked if we are doing away with our February vacation. Can we poll parents and do a survey?
- ◆ Mr. Steven Engravalle stated that the reason to change the calendar structure is due to construction.
- ◆ Mr. John Bang stated that there is no skiing due to global warming.
- ◆ Mr. David Sarnoff asked if there will be a textbook meeting.

- ◆ Dr. Sharon Amato that it will be a meeting in the Conference Room 1:30pm at Central Office, 2175 Lemoine Avenue.
- ◆ Mr. Howard Pearl stated that he wanted to ask about the issue of community service at Fort Lee High School and that the sixty hours would not have to be consecutive. The new issue is if the children who perform well in the High School need one hundred hours to qualify in the National Honor Society. The students are unaware of that. Students who may qualify only have sixty hours and will need to be addressed.
- ◆ Mrs. Cheryl Balletto explained the bid for the Central Office renovation.
- ◆ Mr. Carmelo Luppino explained that the price is half estimated and the board and administration works hard. The public wants to look at the negative things and not one word was to commend the board and administration for a doing a good job. Mr. Luppino also thanked School #4 PTA and the Moraltis family for the donations totaling \$7,000.
- ◆ Mr. Arthur Levine said he called to thank School #4 PTA for the donations which makes a difference.
- ◆ Mr. John Bang stated that there is nothing to do with the Superintendent Search and he has a favorable opinion of Mr. Kravitz. He stated that when he first ran for the school board and in the last year he heard great news from Apple, and the Commissioner that Mr. Engravalle has done a great job.

10. **RESOLUTIONS AND REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

<b><u>Board Committee</u></b>			
<b>#1B</b>	<b>Approval - Resolution Regarding School District Report of Incidents of Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying</b>		
<b>#2B</b>	<b>Approval - Resolution in Support of Seeking Amendment to Senate Bill 1455 (Ruiz) to Retain Local School Board and Chief School Administrator Authority over Personnel Decisions</b>		
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">                     Motion by Mrs. Linda McCue To Approve #1B &amp; #2B                 </td> <td style="width: 50%;">                     Motion by Mr. Joseph Surace On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. Yusang Park abstained on Resolution #2B. Mrs. Angela Napolitano was absent.                 </td> </tr> </table>	Motion by Mrs. Linda McCue To Approve #1B & #2B	Motion by Mr. Joseph Surace On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. Yusang Park abstained on Resolution #2B. Mrs. Angela Napolitano was absent.
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<b><u>Buildings and Grounds</u></b>			
<b>#1B&amp;G</b>	<b>Approval - Award of Bid for Central Office Renovation at 255 Whiteman Street</b>		
<b>#2B&amp;G</b>	<b>Approval - Authorization for Bid Advertisement for Security Services</b>		
<b>#3B&amp;G</b>	<b>Approval - Approval of Fire Alarm Systems Emergency Repair</b>		
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">                     Motion by Mr. Carmelo Luppino To Approve #1B&amp;G - #3B&amp;G                 </td> <td style="width: 50%;">                     Motion by Mr. Joseph Surace On roll call, Motion carried. Mrs. Angela Napolitano was absent.                 </td> </tr> </table>	Motion by Mr. Carmelo Luppino To Approve #1B&G - #3B&G	Motion by Mr. Joseph Surace On roll call, Motion carried. Mrs. Angela Napolitano was absent.
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<b><u>Curriculum Committee</u></b>		
#1CUR	Approval of Class Trips at a Cost to the District of \$4,744.00	
#3CUR	Approval - Dr. Aili Pogust as a Professional Development Provider	
#4CUR	Approval of School Calendar for the 2012-2013 school year	
	Motion by Mr. Carmelo Luppino To Approve #1CUR, #3CUR & #4CUR #2CUR PULLED	Seconded by Mrs. Linda McCue On roll call, Motion carried. Mrs. Angela Napolitano was absent.

<b><u>Finance</u></b>		
#1F	Approval – Current Bills List Totaling \$6,708,584.61	
#2F	Approval – Cafeteria Claims for March 2012 Totaling \$109,850.54	
#3F	Approval - Extended School Day Program Claims for March 2012 totaling \$92,513.67	
#4F	Approval - Budget Transfer	
#5F	Approval –Transfer Money to Capital Reserve	
#6F	Approval - Beyer-Warnock Fleet State Contract	
#7F	Approval - Athletic Awards Dinner Contract	
#8F	Approval - Performing Arts Dinner Contract	
#9F	Approval - Acceptance of Donations Totaling \$7,028	
#10F	Approval - Energy for America Contract for 2012-2013	
	Motion by Mr. Joseph Surace To Approve #1F - #10F	Seconded by Mr. Carmelo Luppino On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. Joseph Surace abstained from one name on #1F. Mrs. Angela Napolitano was absent.

<b><u>Health-Welfare and Safety</u></b>		
#1HWS	Approval - Home and Bedside Instruction	
	Motion by Mrs. Linda McCue To Approve #1HWS	Seconded by Mr. Carmelo Luppino On roll call, Motion carried. Mrs. Angela Napolitano was absent.

<b>Personnel</b>			
<b>#1P</b>	<b>Approval - Staff Trips and Conferences at a Cost Not to Exceed \$276.77</b>		
<b>#2P</b>	<b>Approval - Retirement of Eusebio Lopez as High School Custodian</b>		
<b>#3P</b>	<b>Approval - Amended Medical Leave for Beverly Delaney as Music Teacher at School No. 2</b>		
<b>#4P</b>	<b>Approval - Medical Leave for Alicyn Liquori as Elementary Teacher at School No. 4</b>		
<b>#5P</b>	<b>Approval - Prorated Stipend for Chang Liu Caulfield for High School Teacher Teaching a 6th Class</b>		
<b>#6P</b>	<b>Approval - Rescind Curriculum/Professional Development Coordinator Stipend</b>		
<b>#7P</b>	<b>Approval - Additional Substitutes for 2011-2012 school year</b>		
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11. At approximately 8:58 PM, Mr. Joseph Surace, 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,

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CHERYL BALLETO  
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY

CB/mp  
Att.  
4-23-12