

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

**REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, September 12, 2011

Library, School No. 1 – 250 Hoym St.

1. The Regular Business Meeting was called to order at 8:00 PM by Mr. Arthur W. Levine, President of the Fort Lee Board of Education.
2. Mr. Peter Suh 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., (8:45) Mrs. Linda McCue, Mrs. Angela Napolitano, Mr. Yusang Park  
Mr. Peter Suh, Mr. Joseph Surace Ms. Helen Yoon and Mr. Arthur W. Levine  
  
ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Raymond Bandlow, Mr. Steven Engravalle, Mrs. Cheryl Balletto, and Mr. Matthew J. Giacobbe, Esq.  
  
ABSENT: None
5. **REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**
  - ◆ Dr. Raymond Bandlow gave a report on a good opening for the first day of school.
  - ◆ The School Resource Officer position will begin at the High School on Monday. Dr. Bandlow thanked the Police Chief Ripoli and Mayor Sokolich.
  - ◆ The student enrollment is up 3%. We will have official numbers in October.
  - ◆ Dr. Bandlow enjoyed the Memorial of the 9-11 services at School #2. It was a nice program.
  - ◆ He also welcomed the Student Representatives Sarah Moore and Ross Fasman.
  - ◆ The High School Principal, Mrs. Pricilla Church gave an update on the High School.
6. **REPORT OF THE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES**
  - ◆ Sarah Moore stated wonderful things have happened so far that are going on in the High School. The Fall Sports Pep Rally and a football game is on Friday. The fall production will be the Art of Adolescence. The High School had a lockdown and a moment of silence for the victims and families of 9/11. Each student received a flag and wrote down a pledge of service.
  - ◆ Ross Fasman stated that the painting of the High School is refreshing. The Freshman Academy has become a Fort Lee leader. The Academic 1B Program gives something unique to our school in the Bergen Academy.

7. **BOARD SECRETARY REPORT – JULY 2011 AND REVISED JUNE 2011**

- ◆ For the month of July 2011 and the revised report for the month of June 2011.

	Motion by Mr. Peter Suh	Seconded by Mrs. Angela Napolitano	
	To approve the Board Secretary Report for the month of July and the (Revised Report) for the month of June 2011.	On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. Joseph Surace abstained. Mr. Carmelo Luppino, Jr., was absent.	

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

- ◆ For the month of July 2011.

	Motion by Mrs. Linda McCue	Seconded by Mrs. Angela Napolitano	
	To approve the Monthly Budget Status Certification for the month July 2011.	On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. Carmelo Luppino, Jr., was absent.	

9. **PUBLIC WORK SESSION**10. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- ◆ Minutes from the Executive Session and Regular Business Meeting on August 29, 2011.

	Motion by Mrs. Linda McCue	Seconded by Mr. Carmelo Luppino	
	To Approve Minutes from the Executive Session and Regular Business Meeting on August 29, 2011.	On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. Carmelo Luppino, Jr., was absent.	

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

- ◆ Mr. David Sarnoff stated that the schools are overcrowded and he went to the council meeting where he knows that the votes have a direct and indirect affect on the Board of Education. There are no plans set in stone and he encourages having a liaison talk to the Board of Education. He said that Mr. Jensen spoke about Fair School Funding and that others have passed a resolution.
- ◆ Al Shong, a student asked how much is the Occupational Therapist needed in the schools.
- ◆ Dr. Raymond Bandlow stated that it deals with the physically handicapped and they are needed to exercise motor skills. We are responsible for Special Education.
- ◆ Diane Scair from 2F stated that Dr. Bandlow is leaving and she doesn't see how this benefits the district.
- ◆ Mrs. Millie Federico asked about the payout amount for Dr. Bandlow and if the Human Resource Assistant job description was approved.
- ◆ Dr. Raymond Bandlow stated that it is not a new change in the existing job description but the Board office requires a greater expertise for the job.
- ◆ Mr. Howard Pearl stated that other towns passed Fair Funding and the town council will support it if the Board of Education will. If we don't like the way the funding is now then we can join other communities to get our fair share. They would take our funding and give it to the urban districts. We need a plan or discussion when there will be a new superintendent.

- ◆ Al Shong stated that at the last meeting we discussed a number of issues.
- ◆ Mr. Howard Pearl stated that the community needed to know if we have a direction.
- ◆ Mr. Arthur Levine stated that Abbot is a court decision and the Board hasn't discussed it and will address it at the next open session.
- ◆ Dr. Nina Levinson stated that it is up to the schools to take the initiative.
- ◆ Mrs. Nancy Stern stated that the retirement of Dr. Bandlow in Resolution #4P should start November 1, 2011.
- ◆ Mrs. Nancy Stern stated that in Resolution #4P the retirement states that Dr. Bandlow is retiring as of November 1, 2011. My understanding is that there is a 90 day clause so why isn't he leaving December 1, 2011.
- ◆ Mr. Matthew J. Giacobbe, Esq. stated that the board didn't make any decision. Dr. Bandlow requested this and tonight it will be approved.
- ◆ Mrs. Cheryl Balletto stated that it won't be paid out until November for time to change it.
- ◆ Mr. Arthur Levine stated that it will be announced at the next meeting. We have good leadership.
- ◆ Carol stated that the Assistant Superintendent is really great.
- ◆ Martha Cohen stated that her son is a freshman and it was a nice transition going from the Middle School to the High School and would like to thank Mrs. Church. She really cares about her children. Who is the board liaison and what is their position?
- ◆ Mr. Arthur Levine stated yes, Mr. Cuevas is the School Resource Officer for the High School and is Vinny Buda now at the other schools?
- ◆ Mrs. Linda McCue stated that it is not an active position. We work with the mayor and the council.
- ◆ Diane Scian stated that we have argued with the mayor to get the developers and give money to the schools.
- ◆ Mr. Arthur Levine stated that we can charge the impact fees. Do they want to put in the demand?
- ◆ Diane Scian stated that we need to get money for the overcrowding of the classrooms. We are one town and need to work together.
- ◆ Mr. Carmelo Luppino stated that we want the same thing. We have a good working relationship.
- ◆ Mr. Arthur Levine stated that they are interested and are getting ratables to town.
- ◆ Mr. David Sarnoff stated that he finds the mayor to be very supportive.
- ◆ Dr. Raymond Bandlow stated that the B&G Committee will study the public discussion at the next meeting.
- ◆ Keith Jensen asked if the board thinks we can have this put to rest. The active bill is not partisan and supports Fort Lee. How will I know if it will be on the next agenda? Will it reduce taxes by 33%?
- ◆ We need to hear from the board to pass the bill and then it becomes a law. Let me support the residents of Fort Lee.
- ◆ Martha Cohen stated that the planning board is reviewing the Master Plan. It is very important that someone goes. The zoning board needs someone from the school board and sees the apartments that will be built.
- ◆ Mr. Peter Suh stated that he informs his dad every single day.
- ◆ Dr. Nina Levinson stated that she repeatedly requests the numbers of the bill.
- ◆ Mrs. Mildred Frederico states that there is a new residency officer.
- ◆ Mrs. Paula Colbath stated that we need a little more direction and what is the intention for an interim Superintendent?
- ◆ Mr. Arthur Levine stated that there is many possibilities.
- ◆ Stephanie Stuart stated what is the strategy?
- ◆ Mr. Arthur Levine stated that we are not going to appoint a permanent Superintendent.

12. **RESOLUTIONS AND REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

<b><u>Curriculum Committee</u></b>			
<b>#1CUR</b>	<b>Approval of Class Trips</b>		
<b>#2CUR</b>	<b>Independent Studies</b>		
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Motion by Mrs. Linda McCue To Approve #1CUR - #2CUR</td> <td>Seconded by Mrs. Angela Napolitano On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. Carmelo Luppino, Jr. abstained from #2CUR.</td> </tr> </table>	Motion by Mrs. Linda McCue To Approve #1CUR - #2CUR	Seconded by Mrs. Angela Napolitano On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. Carmelo Luppino, Jr. abstained from #2CUR.
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<b><u>Finance</u></b>			
<b>#1F</b>	<b>Approval – Current Bills List</b>		
<b>#2F</b>	<b>Approval of Attendance and Travel to The New Jersey School Boards Convention in October 2011</b>		
<b>#3F</b>	<b>Approval – Joint Transportation Agreement with Fairview Board of Education</b>		
<b>#4F</b>	<b>Approval – Submission of 2011-2012 Idea (Students With Disabilities) Grant Application, in The Amount Of \$830,223</b>		
<b>#5F</b>	<b>Approval – Revised Resolution for Member Participation in a Cooperative Pricing System, The Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission</b>		
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Motion by Mrs. Linda McCue To Approve #1F - #5F</td> <td>Seconded by Mr. Peter Suh On roll call, Motion carried.</td> </tr> </table>	Motion by Mrs. Linda McCue To Approve #1F - #5F	Seconded by Mr. Peter Suh On roll call, Motion carried.
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<b><u>Health-Welfare and Safety</u></b>			
<b>#1HWS</b>	<b>Approval – Bergen County Region V Council For Special Education As A Related Service Provider</b>		
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<b><u>Personnel</u></b>	
<b>#1P</b>	<b>Approval - Staff Trips and Conferences</b>
<b>#2P</b>	<b>Approval of Job Descriptions</b>
<b>#3P</b>	<b>Approval – Rescinding Resolution No. 24449 Dated August 15, 2011 for Extending The Appointment of Olga Sagalchik as Leave Replacement (For Math Teacher) at Fort Lee High School</b>
<b>#4P</b>	<b>Approval – Accepting the Resignation for the Purpose of Retirement of Dr. Raymond Bandlow as Superintendent of Schools</b>
<b>#5P</b>	<b>Approval – Transfer of Staff Members</b>

#6P	Approval – Resignation of Adriana Zaragoza as 1:1 Aide at School No. 1	
#7P	Approval – Resignation of Michelle Desiervo as Part-Time 1:1 Aide at School No. 3	
#8P	Approval – Rescinding the Appointment of Lauren Gossel as Aide at School No. 1	
#9P	Approval – Resignation of Jacqueline Maddi as 4/5th District Behaviorist	
#10P	Approval – Amended Appointment of Extended School Day Program Staffing for the 2011-2012 school year	
#11P	Approval – Adjustment of Start Date for the Appointment of Magda Heller as 2:1 Aide at School No. 1	
#12P	Approval – Appointment of Meghan Lynch as Leave Replacement for Guidance Counselor at School No. 2	
#13P	Approval – Appointment of Peter Wood as Part-Time Classroom Aide at Lewis F. Cole Middle School	
#14P	Approval – Adjustment of Hours for Rosemarie Rabbitt as Part-Time Physical Education Aide at School No. 4	
#15P	Approval – Reappointment of Leena Kothari from Part-Time to Full-Time Classroom Aide at School No. 4	
#16P	Approval – Additional Substitutes for the 2011-2012 school year	
#17P	Approval – Tuition Reimbursement Rate for Credits earned by teachers for the 2011-2012 school year	
#18P	Approval – Amended Medical Leave for Lori Tauscher as Elementary Teacher at School No. 2	
#19P	Approval – Appointment of Thomas Curry as Part-Time Physical Education Aide at School No. 2	
#20P	Approval – Resignation of Shakira Valdez as Part-Time Physical Education Aide at School No. 3	
	Motion by Mr. Peter Suh To Approve #1P - #20P	Seconded by Mrs. Linda McCue On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. Joseph Surace abstained from #10P.

#1POL	Approval – Second Reading and Adoption of Policy/Regulation Updates	
	Motion by Mrs. Angela Napolitano To Approve #1POL	Seconded by Mrs. Linda McCue On roll call, Motion carried.

13. At approximately 9:05 PM, Mr. Carmelo Luppino, Jr., offered, Mr. Peter Suh, 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 BALLETT  
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY

CB/mp  
Att.  
9-21-11