

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

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Monday, October 17, 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. Carmelo Luppino, Jr., 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, Mrs. Angela Napolitano, 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: Mr. Yusang Park
5. **REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**
 - ◆ Dr. Raymond Bandlow gave a report on Violence and Vandalism which is down by 42%. He attributes this to the good work of the Principals and teachers. The High School has dropped to 29%.
 - ◆ Dr. Raymond Bandlow also gave his farewell comments and stated that this is his last board meeting.
 - ◆ School No. 3 Principal, Mr. Robert Kravitz gave a report on School #3.
6. **REPORT OF THE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES**
 - ◆ Ross Fasman stated that PowerSchool has been implemented and students are positive about the program. The band competition is on Sunday. The Fall Play is on December 8th, 9th, and 10th. The CARES Program is about respect and the students have made a mural. The Student Council is having an 80's Dress Day tomorrow.
 - ◆ Mr. Tom Myers of the Fort Lee Film commission came to the Board Meeting. Donna and Ken were also there. They presented a check for \$3,000. Dr. Bandlow gave a thank you certificate for the donation. They gave brochures of film history in Fort Lee.

7. **PUBLIC WORK SESSION**

8. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- ◆ Minutes from the Executive Session and Regular Business Meeting on September 26, 2011 and the Special Public Business Meeting on October 11, 2011.

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| | Motion by Mr. Carmelo Luppino To Approve Minutes from the Executive Session and Regular Business Meeting on September 26, 2011 and the Special Public Business Meeting on October 11, 2011. | Seconded by Mr. Peter Suh On roll call, Motion carried. Mrs. Linda McCue and Mrs. Angela Napolitano abstained from the Special Public Business Meeting on October 11, 2011. Mr. Yusang Park was absent. | |
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9. **QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS LISTED ON TONIGHT'S AGENDA AND ANY OTHER TOPIC OF CONCERN**

- ◆ Mr. Doug Sugarman asked about Resolution #2B and the Acting Superintendent process. The resolution short sided unless it is already decided. The resolution may change no later than June 30th. I would suggest the attorney to amend it from November 1st to June 30th for the stability till the end of the school year.
- ◆ Ms. Aida Garcia stated that we need addition classrooms and will they be under School #1? We already have over 600 children and how will one administrator handle the school. I worry because the same thing can be repeated.
- ◆ Dr. Raymond Bandlow stated that we failed the referendum. The piecemeal approach is to build other classes. School #1 is the fastest growing. It is stretched to the limit and School #2 is smaller. Schools #3 and #4 are around 500. As we grow we may need additional supervision.
- ◆ Mr. Paul Umrichin asked about Resolution #2B and why there is a four month date on it. Is it to test him out?
- ◆ Mr. Arthur Levine stated that the date can be extended and the result is with Board discussion.
- ◆ Mr. David Sarnoff stated that with this appointment will we see a Curriculum Development?
- ◆ Mr. Steven Engravalle stated that he hopes so. We need supervisors. We are working with a literacy staff developer.
- ◆ Mr. David Sarnoff stated that his concern is over Curriculum. We still don't have a unified Curriculum which should be a high priority.
- ◆ Mrs. Paula Colbath stated that Resolution #1B states there are 7 proposal firms. She also asked if in Resolution 12P is the payment to the Chess Club money for School #4 and their Chess Program. Is there a way to implement chess and get that going?
- ◆ Mr. Arthur Levine stated that the research firms that were used were once approved and they will respond quickly.
- ◆ Mrs. Paula Colbath asked if they had any other prior experience.
- ◆ Dr. Raymond Bandlow stated that this is a part of the budget process and we have a certain amount of money for the High School. We are redirecting some of the funds and some of the activities have low enrollment.
- ◆ Mr. Howard Pearl stated that he went to all the back to school nights. Tenafly posts honor tests so they don't study till 1am. It's not hard to post and communicate with the students. Maybe PowerSchool can do it.
- ◆ Ms. Carol Simon stated that the skateboard park needs a home. Maybe there's a place if we think outside the box. The kids need it.
- ◆ Dr. Nina Levinson asked how much it would cost the Board of Education yearly for replacing the offices not being used for the students. Should the board pursue Trinity as a

second building for the Youth Center? In resolution #3P states that we need faculty coordinators who were abolished? How are they different? Why weren't the old ones kept?

- ◆ Mr. Arthur Levine stated that the Trinity lease is until 2016 and we have had some discussions. I don't know when the facility would have to retrofit it.
- ◆ Dr. Raymond Bandlow stated that the code requirements would have to be retrofitted. There is very little renovation at Trinity Church. Faculty coordinate positions are not the same as supervisors. We are not recreating positions. They are stipend positions to take on certain responsibilities and maintain inventory, and new textbooks. We are working with the faculty to develop courses.
- ◆ Ms. Diane Sicarri asked about Resolution #2F.
- ◆ Ms. Holly Morelle about Resolution #2B&G.
- ◆ Mr. John Bang asked about Resolution #2B and he voted to get public comment and had a Special Meeting. It was an unintended consequence about what I read for and against Steve Engravalle. If we did something wrong I apologize to Mr. Engravalle for any embarrassment and commend his poise.

10. At approximately 9:05 PM, Mr. Carmelo Luppino, offered, Mr. Joseph Surace seconded by, to adjourn the Regular Business meeting and go into the Private Business meeting. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

- ◆ Mr. Carmelo Luppino said thank you to Ray for his four years of hard work and dedication. He stated that it was a pleasure working with him. Mr. Engravalle is in a procedural situation and we knew all along that you were the best choice.
- ◆ Mr. Joseph Surace thanked Dr. Bandlow and the Board Members wish him good luck.
- ◆ Mr. Arthur Levine stated that Ray came in time of turmoil and pushed everyone in the right direction.

11. **RESOLUTIONS AND REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

| <u>Board Committee</u> | | |
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| #1B | Approval - Solicitation of Superintendent Search Firm | |
| #2B | Approval - Appointment of Acting Superintendent | |
| #3B | Approval - Resolution Regarding School District Report of Incidents of Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying | |
| | Motion by Mr. Carmelo Luppino To Approve #1B - #3B | Seconded by Mrs. Linda McCue On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. Yusang Park was absent. |

| <u>Buildings and Grounds</u> | | |
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| #1B&G | Approval - Authorization for SSP to Submit Plans to State for Renovation of Central Office | |
| #2B&G PULLED | Approval - Lease Agreement for 2175 Lemoine Avenue | |
| | Motion by Mrs. Angela Napolitano Motion To Approve #1B&G only. #2B&G Pulled. | Seconded by Mr. Carmelo Luppino On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. Yusang Park was absent. |

| <u>Committee of the Whole</u> | | |
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| #1CW | Approval - New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) Statement of Assurance | |
| | Motion by Mr. Carmelo Luppino To Approve #1CW | Seconded by Mr. Peter Suh On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. Yusang Park was absent. |

| <u>Curriculum Committee</u> | | |
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| #1CUR | Approval of Class Trips for a Total Cost to the District of \$7,320 | |
| | Motion by Mr. Carmelo Luppino To Approve #1CUR | Seconded by Mrs. Angela Napolitano On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. Yusang Park was absent. |

| <u>Finance</u> | | |
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| #1F | Approval - Current Bills List | |
| #2F | Approval - Cafeteria Claims for September 2011 | |
| #3F | Approval - Extended School Day Program Claims for September 2011 | |
| #4F | Approval - Acceptance of Donations | |
| #5F | Approval - First Student Transportation Contract Addendum | |
| #6F | Approval - Met Life Insurance Company as Additional District's Voluntary Disability Insurance Carrier at No Cost to the District | |
| #7F | Approval - Salaries Charged to Grants Totaling \$431,800 | |
| | Motion by Mr. Joseph Surace To Approve #1F - #7F | Seconded by Mr. Peter Suh On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. Yusang Park was absent. |

| <u>Health-Welfare and Safety</u> | | |
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| #1HWS | Approval - Payment of Home Instruction Services | |
| #2HWS | Approval - Revised Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement for the 2011-2012 school year between Fort Lee Police Department and Fort Lee Public Schools including 2011 Revisions | |
| #3HWS | Approval - Out-of-District Placement | |
| | Motion by Mrs. Angela Napolitano To Approve #1HWS - #3HWS | Seconded by Mr. Carmelo Luppino On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. Yusang Park was absent. |

| Personnel | | | |
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| #1P | Approval - Staff Trips and Conferences for a Total of \$211.64 | | |
| #2P | Approval of Job Descriptions: Faculty Coordinator and Departmental Liaison (As Amended) | | |
| #3P | Approval - Appointment of Faculty Coordinators for a Total Cost of \$35,000 | | |
| #4P | Approval - Resignation of Jamie Ciofalo as Director of School Counseling Services | | |
| #5P | Approval - Medical Leave for Meira Pomerantz as Special Education Teacher at School No. 3 | | |
| #6P | Approval - Extended Maternity Leave for Chang Caulfield as High School Mathematics Teacher | | |
| #7P | Approval - Appointment of Mary Vincenti as Part-Time Classroom Aide at School No. 1 | | |
| #8P | Approval - Appointment of Angela Rodriguez as Part-Time Preschool 1:1 Aide at Fort Lee Early Childhood Center | | |
| #9P | Approval - Appointment of Barbara Oliveri as Leave Replacement at Middle School | | |
| #10P | Approval - Appointment of Theresa Kavanagh as Full-Time Preschool 1:1 Aide at Fort Lee Early Childhood Center | | |
| #11P | Approval - Retirement Payout for a Total Cost of \$30,000 | | |
| #12P | Approval of Additional Co-Curricular Activities for the 2011-2012 school year | | |
| #13P | Approval - Appointment of Additional Co-Curricular Personnel for the 2011-2012 school year | | |
| #14P | Approval - Appointment of Grant-Funded Tutors | | |
| #15P | Approval - Saturday Detention Monitors | | |
| #16P | Approval - Additional Substitutes for the 2011-2012 school year | | |
| | <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Motion by Mr. Peter Suh To Approve #1P - #16P</td> <td>Seconded by Mrs. Angela Napolitano On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. Yusang Park was absent.</td> </tr> </table> | Motion by Mr. Peter Suh To Approve #1P - #16P | Seconded by Mrs. Angela Napolitano On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. Yusang Park was absent. |
| Motion by Mr. Peter Suh To Approve #1P - #16P | Seconded by Mrs. Angela Napolitano On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. Yusang Park was absent. | | |

12. At approximately 8:50 PM, Mr. Carmelo Luppino, Jr., offered, Mr. Joseph Surace, 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.
10-25-11