

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

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Monday, December 6, 2010

Library, School No. 1 – 250 Hoym St.

1. The Regular Business Meeting was called to order at 8:00 PM by Mr. Carmelo Luppino, Jr., 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: The Record, The Star Ledger, The Bergen News and 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. Arthur W. Levine, Mrs. Linda McCue, Mr. Yusang Park, Mrs. Michelle Stux-Ramirez, Mr. Peter Suh, Mr. Joseph Surace and Mr. Carmelo Luppino, Jr.

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Raymond J. Bandlow, Mr. Steven Engravalle, Mrs. Cheryl Balletto and Yaacov Brisman, Esq.

ABSENT: Mrs. Angela Napolitano
5. **REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**
 - ◆ Dr. Raymond Bandlow reported about the trip to Korea and the set up with Bloomfield College in conjunction with the Ticket Program. This is a great benefit to students and staff.
 - ◆ Mr. Steven Wielkocz presented the June 30, 2010 audit.
6. **REPORT OF THE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES - NONE**
7. **PUBLIC WORK SESSION**
8. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - ◆ Minutes from the Executive Session and Regular Business Meeting on November 22, 2010.

	Motion by Mrs. Linda McCue To Approve Minutes from the Executive Session and Regular Business Meeting on November 22, 2010.	Seconded by Mr. Yusang Park On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. John Bang, Mr. Arthur W. Levine and Mr. Joseph Surace abstained from the minutes. Mrs. Angela Napolitano was absent.
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9. **QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS LISTED ON TONIGHT'S AGENDA**

- ◆ Mr. Peter Suh asked if there is any change to Resolution #1POL?
- ◆ Mr. Steven Engravallo said no.
- ◆ Mr. Peter Suh asked if there is any change to Resolution #2POL?
- ◆ Mr. Steven Engravallo said that this is a required policy due to a court case. This policy is for an opt-in not an opt-out.

10. **RESOLUTIONS AND REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

<u>Buildings and Grounds</u>		
#1B&G	Rental Agreement for School No. 2	
	Motion by Mr. Arthur W. Levine To Approve #1B&G	Seconded by Mrs. Linda McCue On roll call, Motion carried. Mrs. Angela Napolitano was absent.

<u>Curriculum Committee</u>		
#1CUR	Approval of Class Trips	
	Motion by Mr. Yusang Park To Approve #1CUR	Seconded by Mrs. Michelle Stux-Ramirez On roll call, Motion carried. Mrs. Angela Napolitano was absent.

<u>Finance</u>		
#1F	Approval – Current Bills List	
#2F	Approval - Budget Calendar For 2011-2012	
#3F	Approval - Acceptance Of Corrective Action Plan	
#4F	Approval - Acceptance Of 2009-2010 Audit	
	Motion by Mr. Joseph Surace To Approve #1F - #4F	Seconded Mr. Peter Suh On roll call, Motion carried. Mrs. Angela Napolitano was absent.

<u>Health-Welfare and Safety</u>			
#1HWS	Approval - Payment of Home and Bedside Instruction Services		
#2HWS	Approval - Additional Related Service Provider		
#3HWS	Approval - Out-Of-District Placement		
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Motion by Mrs. Michelle Stux-Ramirez To Approve #1HWS - #3HWS</td> <td>Seconded by Mrs. Linda McCue On roll call, Motion carried. Mrs. Angela Napolitano was absent.</td> </tr> </table>	Motion by Mrs. Michelle Stux-Ramirez To Approve #1HWS - #3HWS	Seconded by Mrs. Linda McCue On roll call, Motion carried. Mrs. Angela Napolitano was absent.
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<u>Personnel</u>			
#1P	Approval - Staff Trips and Conferences		
#2P	Approval - Appointment of School Bus Aide		
#3P	Approval - Transfer of Aide From School No. 2 to School No. 3		
#4P	Approval - Appointment of Michelle Rios-Fornes as 1:1 Aide at School No. 4		
#5P	Approval - Appointment of Ken Soussa as Classroom Aide for School No. 2		
#6P	Approval - Appointment of Tutors		
#7P	Approval - Appointment of Additional Substitutes for the 2010-2011 school year		
#8P	Approval - Placement of Student Teachers, Student Interns and Practicum Candidates for the 2010-2011 school year		
#9P	Approval - Extra Hours for Kathy Patilis, Part-Time Clerk Typist at School No. 4		
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Motion by Mr. Arthur W. Levine To Approve #1P - #9P</td> <td>Seconded by Mrs. Linda McCue On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. John Bang abstained from Resolution #6P. Mr. Carmelo Luppino abstained from Resolution #7P. Mr. Joseph Surace abstained from Resolution #2P. Mrs. Angela Napolitano was absent.</td> </tr> </table>	Motion by Mr. Arthur W. Levine To Approve #1P - #9P	Seconded by Mrs. Linda McCue On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. John Bang abstained from Resolution #6P. Mr. Carmelo Luppino abstained from Resolution #7P. Mr. Joseph Surace abstained from Resolution #2P. Mrs. Angela Napolitano was absent.
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<u>Policy</u>			
#1POL	Approval - Second Reading and Adoption of Policies: 2431.3 & 2431.4		
#2POL	Approval - First Reading of Policy No. 8601		
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Motion by Mr. Yusang Park To Approve #1POL & #2POL</td> <td>Seconded by Mr. Peter Suh On roll call, Motion carried. Mrs. Angela Napolitano was absent.</td> </tr> </table>	Motion by Mr. Yusang Park To Approve #1POL & #2POL	Seconded by Mr. Peter Suh On roll call, Motion carried. Mrs. Angela Napolitano was absent.
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11. **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FROM THE AUDIENCE ON ANY TOPIC OF CONCERN**

- ◆ Alex Chung a student from the High School asked if there is any cost from the budget. How is the Ticket Program financed and how are we looking to expand? Will the expansion affect any of the financing?
- ◆ Dr. Raymond Bandlow stated that it is paid for by the city district based in Korea. There are seminars at Bloomfield College and you can be placed in a classroom and co-teach. They are looking for a larger number and there will be no cost if expanded.
- ◆ A resident said they received a phone call stating that students go out of district due to space.
- ◆ Millie Federico stated that she received a similar call and asked who is paying.
- ◆ Mr. Yusang Park stated that he was not aware of it.
- ◆ Mr. Carmelo Luppino asked who is stuffing the mailboxes.
- ◆ Aida Garcia asked that back in the 1990's what was Dr. Sugarman's plan.
- ◆ David Sarnoff stated that we are in the same situation of overcrowding now as in the past. He stated that we need an expansion of the Middle School and several Elementary Schools. He also stated that there is a letter as Board President in 1994. In the fall there was less than 3,271 students enrolled.
- ◆ Mr. Arthur Levine asked if there is anyone who has information. He said that we have a retired cop on staff. Please give us names. We have four board members on the committee.
- ◆ David Sarnoff stated that at all the meetings he attended he had to do his own digging. Back in 1991 the Record had an article. He read articles back then that stated there was 2,675 students and there was overcrowding then. The schools now have 1,000 more students. The new school would be off 10th St. In 15 years we came up with the same conclusion. Dr. Sugarman recommended the new school.
- ◆ Aida Garcia stated that we don't want to be here in 15 more years with the same situation. This has to do with the town. Let's forget the past, move on and do what we need to do.
- ◆ Nancy Stern stated that if \$18 million was lost, would we raise taxes?
- ◆ Mrs. Cheryl Balletto said no, by law we cannot bond more than \$71 million.
- ◆ Alex Chung stated sure that this needs to be passed. There are too many questions. We are not completely sure. Do we need an advertising subcommittee to market this?
- ◆ Howard Pearl stated that we've reached out to Asian representatives and met with students at the High School. We have reached out to every sector. We can't force it down people's throat. It passes hard work of a lot of people. Maybe you can help. Every person can make a difference.
- ◆ Mr. Carmelo Luppino stated if you want your vote to count you must cast it. Every vote counts.
- ◆ David Sarnoff stated that there was another forum and another principal from Ramsey and you know what happened. In Ridgefield they voted down the referendum and their taxes went up \$2,000. They have 20 trailers and the emergency repairs are \$70 dollars. They have outlived their trailers and if the state says they're done then we will send students somewhere else further away.
- ◆ Blanche Demona stated she didn't they get a call back? If it happened to me it could happen to many people.
- ◆ Dr. Raymond Bandlow apologized for no call back.
- ◆ Laurie Keller stated if I don't get a response I would call back and pursue it.
- ◆ Blanche Demona asked about an increase in taxes would only be \$13 million?
- ◆ Mrs. Cheryl Balletto explained the tax impact.
- ◆ Diane Cicalli asked if all the mail only went out to the parents because no one on the block received anything.
- ◆ Dr. Raymond Bandlow stated that another newsletter is going out to all residents. Dr. Bandlow also stated that we can reduce the cost even after hiring Special Education teachers to provide in house programs.

- ◆ Millie Federico stated that being in the Alumni she didn't receive a letter.
- ◆ Alex Floratos stated that a few times he sent out letters and they came back. The 18 million is taxpayer money. There is a problem on a local and national level. Any grant is still money out of pocket.
- ◆ Mr. John Bang stated that the referendum has been advertised in Korean newspapers and on TV.
- ◆ Mr. Joseph Surace stated that if any citizen that does not report someone who doesn't live here you are stealing. You have a duty to turn in those students. I was on the old and new committee. As a response to Chris Nicholas, we did attempt to secure Trinity and tried five years ago to rent or buy. The answer was no. Make a request and get an opinion from the bond counsel and get a letter to secure the money. The state can give us an answer.
- ◆ Millie Federico stated that she saw in the paper the acting commissioner regarding Jay Berman.
- ◆ Yaacov Brisman said that personnel by law states Jay Berman must be riced. At this time he has not been riced and can't be discussed.

12. At approximately 9:30 PM, Mr. Arthur W. Levine, offered, Mr. Yusang Park, 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,

MRS. CHERYL BALLETT
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY

CB/mp
Att.
12-9-10