

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

MINUTES – PUBLIC WORK SESSION

Monday, December 9, 2013

Fort Lee High School Auditorium,
3000 Lemoine Ave. Fort Lee, New Jersey 07024

1. The Public Work Session was called to order at 8:15 PM by Mr. Yusang Park, President of the Fort Lee Board of Education.

2. Mr. Peter Suh led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

3. **PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT**

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 online media outlet/newspapers: 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. Please be advised that this meeting is being taped and will be broadcasted on local TV and the district's website at a future date.

During the course of the board meeting, the Fort Lee Board of Education offers members of the public an opportunity to address issues regarding the operation of the Fort Lee Public Schools. The Board reminds those individuals who take this opportunity to identify themselves by name and address and to limit their comments to items listed on the agenda and/or items directly related to the operation of the School District. Issues raised by members of the public may or may not be responded to by the Board. All comments will be considered and a response will be forthcoming if and when appropriate. The Board asks all members of the public to be courteous and mindful of the rights of other individuals when speaking. Specifically, comments regarding students and employees of the Board are discouraged and will not be responded to by the Board. Students and employees have specific legal rights afforded by the laws of New Jersey. The Board bears no responsibility nor will it be liable for any comments made by members of the public. Members of the public should consider their comment in light of the legal rights of those affected or identified in their comments and be aware that they are legally responsible and liable for their comments.

4. **ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Mr. Carmelo Luppino, Jr., Mrs. Esther Han Silver, Mrs. Holly Morell,
Mrs. Candace Romba, Mr. David Sarnoff, Mr. Peter Suh, Mr. Joseph Surace,
Ms. Helen Yoon and Mr. Yusang Park

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Paul Saxton, Dr. Sharon Amato, Mr. David L. Rinderknecht and
Dennis McKeever, Esq.

ABSENT: None

5. REPORT OF THE INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

- ◆ Mr. Paul Saxton welcomed staff and visitors. He spoke about the highlights of the Field of Heroes Program. Mr. Saxton stated that it is his pleasure and honor to introduce and recognize the people who participated in the development of the coordination and implementation of the program.
- ◆ Mr. David Rinderknecht read the resolution recognizing the participants of the Field of Heroes.
- ◆ Mr. Paul Saxton read the certificates to be given to each of the participants.

At approximately 8:30pm to 8:40pm there was a break for refreshments.

The auditor Steve Wilcox from Ferraioli, Wielkocz, Cerullo and Cuva was introduced and he gave a brief presentation of the completed financial audit for the 2012-2013 fiscal year.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS – Reported by Chairperson of respective committee

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| 1. Board Report (by President) | 7. Policy |
| 2. Negotiations | 8. Finance |
| 3. School Security | 9. Technology – District Technology Purchase |
| 4. Buildings & Grounds | 10. Contracts and Legal |
| 5. Personnel | 11. Athletics and Community Involvement |
| 6. Curriculum | |

7. PUBLIC WORK SESSION

- ◆ Mr. Peter Suh asked when the coaches could start. He was informed that it would be as soon as they are approved by the Board.

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the Special Private Work Session and Special Public Work Session on October 28, 2013 and the Executive Session and Regular Business Meeting on November 18, 2013.

	<p>Motion by Mrs. Holly Morell</p> <p>The minutes from the Special Private Work Session and Special Public Work Session on October 28, 2013 and the Executive Session and Regular Business Meeting on November 18, 2013.</p>	<p>Seconded by Mrs. Esther Han Silver</p> <p>On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. Peter Suh and Ms. Helen Yoon abstained from the Special Private Work Session and Special Public Work Session on October 28, 2013 and Mr. Carmelo Luppino abstained from the Executive Session and Regular Business Meeting on November 18, 2013.</p>	
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- 9. At approximately 8:49 PM, Mr. David Sarnoff, offered, seconded by Mrs. Holly Morell, to begin Public Comment. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

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

- ◆ Mr. Gary Novosielski as the FLEA past president spoke to the Board about not honoring the bargained agreement and referred to the class B to C stipends issue.

- ◆ Mrs. Bruna Capalbo, the FLEA president also spoke about the stipend and the Board’s effort to collect past overpayments.
- ◆ Mrs. Paula Colbath spoke about the contract negotiations process and urged the parties to come to the middle of the road to agree.
- ◆ Others commented on the stipend issue, negotiations and certain numbers on the balance sheet as presented by the auditor in the Synopsis of the Audit.
- ◆ Mr. Howard Pearl said he is appalled at the animosity over the stipend payment issue. He also spoke about the gym doors at the High School being chained and questioned if the safety of the children is being watched.

11. At approximately 9:10 PM, Mr. Joseph Surace, offered, seconded by Mrs. Holly Morell, to close Public Comment. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

12. **ALL RESOLUTIONS AND REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

<u>Board Committee</u>		
#1B	RESOLUTION REGARDING SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORT OF INCIDENTS OF HARASSMENT/INTIMIDATION/BULLYING	
#2B	RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF FIELD OF HEROES VIP PARTICIPANTS	
#3B	RESOLUTION ASKING STATE OF NEW JERSEY FOR FULL COMPENSATION FOR NEW STATE MANDATES, ESPECIALLY FOR INCREASED MINIMUM OBSERVATIONS OF TEACHERS, DANIELSON TRAINING (TEACHSCAPE), TRACKING AND SUPPLIES	
#4B	APPROVAL OF REORGANIZATION MEETING	
	Motion by Mr. Carmelo Luppino To Approve #1B - #4B	Seconded by Mrs. Holly Morell On roll call, Motion carried. *Please note that Mrs. Esther Han Silver, Mr. Carmelo Luppino, Mrs. Holly Morell, Mr. Yusang Park, Mrs. Candace Romba, Mr. David Sarnoff, Mr. Peter Suh, Mr. Joseph Surace and Ms. Helen Yoon abstained from their own name on Resolution #2B.

<u>Buildings and Grounds</u>	
#1B&G	AUTHORIZATION FOR SSP ARCHITECTURAL TO SUBMIT ATTACHED PROPOSAL TO THE FORT LEE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR LEWIS F. COLE MIDDLE SCHOOL COURT YARD
#2B&G	AUTHORIZATION FOR SSP ARCHITECTURAL TO SUBMIT ATTACHED PROPOSAL TO THE FORT LEE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR LEWIS F. COLE MIDDLE SCHOOL ADDITIONAL SERVICES

#3B&G	REJECTION OF WINDOW BID FOR FORT LEE HIGH SCHOOL AND AUTHORIZATION TO REBID	
#4B&G	APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER	
	Motion by Mr. Carmelo Luppino To Approve #1B&G - #4B&G	Seconded by Mrs. Candace Romba On roll call, Motion carried.

Curriculum Committee		
#1CUR	APPROVAL OF CLASS TRIPS AT NO COST TO THE DISTRICT	
#2CUR	APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT OF AFFILIATION BETWEEN WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY AND FORT LEE HIGH SCHOOL FOR ATHLETIC INTERN TRAINING EDUCATION PROGRAM SITE	
	Motion by Mrs. Candace Romba To Approve #1CUR & #2CUR	Seconded by Mrs. Holly Morell On roll call, Motion carried.

Finance		
#1F	APPROVAL – CURRENT BILLS LIST TOTALING \$7,695,594.62 (As Amended)	
#2F	ACCEPTANCE OF THE 2012-2013 AUDIT	
#3F	ACCEPTANCE OF CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN	
#4F	APPROVAL OF CORRECTED RESOLUTION NO. 25939 DATED NOVEMBER 18, 2013 FOR CAFETERIA CLAIMS FOR OCTOBER 2013	
#5F	APPROVAL – CAFETERIA CLAIMS FOR NOVEMBER 2013 TOTALING \$154,835.03	
#6F	MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOUNDATION AND FORT LEE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE ACADEMY OF FINANCE	
#7F	RESOLUTION CONFIRMING SUBMISSION OF LETTER TO YMCA TERMINATING LATCHKEY PROGRAM CONTRACT	
	Motion by Mr. Joseph Surace To Approve #1F - #7F	Seconded by Mr. Peter Suh On roll call, Motion carried. *Please note that Mrs. Esther Han Silver and Mrs. Holly Morell each abstained from one name on Resolution #1F.

Health-Welfare and Safety		
#1HWS	PAYMENT OF HOME AND BEDSIDE INSTRUCTION	
#2HWS	PARTICIPATION IN THE GOLD STAR IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM	
#3HWS	APPROVAL OF SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT AND NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL SERVICES WITH REGION V COUNCIL FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION FOR 2013-2014	
#4HWS	ADDITIONAL OUT-OF-DISTRICT PLACEMENTS FOR 2013-2014	
	Motion by Mr. David Sarnoff To Approve #1HWS - #4HWS	Seconded by Mrs. Holly Morell On roll call, Motion carried.

Personnel	
#1P	APPROVAL - STAFF TRIPS AND CONFERENCES TOTALING \$4,780.79
#2P	APPROVAL OF JOB DESCRIPTION FOR MAINTENANCE/CUSTODIAN (PART-TIME)
#3P	CREATION OF TWO PART-TIME MAINTENANCE/CUSTODIAN POSITIONS
#4P	RETIREMENT OF SUSAN GALPERIN AS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COUNSELOR (SAC)
#5P	RESIGNATION FOR SIVA BONATTI AS PART-TIME AIDE AT SCHOOL NO. 1
#6P	APPOINTMENT OF STEFANIE BERETIN AS MATHEMATICS TEACHER AT LEWIS F. COLE MIDDLE SCHOOL
#7P	APPOINTMENT OF MICHELLE DESIERVO AS 3/5TH BSI MATHEMATICS TEACHER AT SCHOOL NO. 3
#8P	APPOINTMENT OF JENNIFER PIASCIK AS 2/5TH MATHEMATICS TEACHER AT LEWIS F. COLE MIDDLE SCHOOL
#9P	APPOINTMENT OF SANG EUN PATRICIA LEE AS PART-TIME AIDE AT SCHOOL NO. 1
#10P	APPOINTMENT OF EVA RAMOS AS PART-TIME AIDE AT SCHOOL NO. 1
#11P	APPOINTMENT OF MARIE GUEVARA FROM PART-TIME TO FULL-TIME CLASSROOM AIDE AT SCHOOL NO. 1
#12P	APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL TUTORS FOR 2013-2014
#13P	APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL SUBSTITUTES FOR 2013-2014
#14P	APPOINTMENT OF STUDENT TEACHERS AND PRACTIUM CANDIDATES
#15P	APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL CO-CURRICULAR PERSONNEL FOR 2013-2014

#16P	INVOLUNTARY DISABILITY RETIREMENT FOR CARMEN ROETMAN FINOCCHIARO AS ELEMENTARY WORLD LANGUAGE SPANISH TEACHER	
#17P	RESIGNATION OF CRISTOBAL RODRIGUEZ AS PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHER AT FORT LEE HIGH SCHOOL	
#18P	AMENDED RESOLUTION FOR MATERNITY LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR DANA DELUCCA AS SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER AT SCHOOL NO. 3	
	Motion by Mrs. Holly Morell To Approve #1P - #18P	Seconded by Mrs. Esther Han Silver On roll call, Motion carried. *Please note that Mr. Peter Suh abstained from Resolution #9P.

13. **OLD BUSINESS**

14. **NEW BUSINESS** – Mr. David Sarnoff suggested that the sound system be fixed before the next meeting. Mr. Carmelo Luppino thanked everyone on the Board, the public and the teachers for their hard work and cooperation. He wished everyone the best.
15. At approximately 9:18 PM, Mr. David Sarnoff, offered, seconded by Mr. Carmelo Luppino, to adjourn the Public Work Session. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

Roll calls and resolutions of this meeting are attached.

Respectfully submitted,



MR. DAVID L. RINDERKNECHT
INTERIM BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY

DLR/mp
Att. 1-10-14