

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

**REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, February 27, 2012

Auditorium, High School, 3000 Lemoine Ave.

1. The Regular Business Meeting was called to order at 8:01 PM by Mrs. Linda McCue, Vice President of the Fort Lee Board of Education.
2. Mrs. Linda McCue, 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, Mr. Yusang Park,  
Mr. Peter Suh, Mr. Joseph Surace, and  
Mr. Arthur W. Levine

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Steven Engravalle, Mrs. Cheryl Balletto, and Mr. Matthew Giacobbe, Esq.

ABSENT: Mrs. Angela Napolitano and Ms. Helen Yoon

5. **REPORT OF THE ACTING SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

- ◆ Mr. Steven Engravalle talked about the Preliminary Budget for the 2012-2013 school year and the improvement of Curriculum, new textbooks in LAL and Math. Mr. Engravalle spoke about the High School gym and auditorium getting atomic clocks. There will be fire systems in Schools #1, #3, and the Middle School which was cited by the fire official. Security upgrades with the Fort Lee Police Department and the Fort Lee Schools will give updates to computers at the schools. The Board of Education will be removing the activity fee.
- ◆ The Middle School won first place in Math Counts and students were awarded.
- ◆ Intermedia Magazine Crown Awards went to the 8<sup>th</sup> graders.
- ◆ Central Office relocated to 2175 Lemoine Avenue. There is a telephone issue and apologizes for the inconvenience.
- ◆ Fort Lee Schools were contacted to participate in the Race to the Top, Part III, based upon the initial \$50,053 that was implemented to align to the common core standards with the statewide system. Ms. Diane Baker was selected to write language arts curriculum.
- ◆ Fort Lee would like to improve the teacher/principal evaluation model and should be a profitable growth and support for the teachers.
- ◆ Apple innovations including electronic textbooks will have staff developing a course guide available via IPAD.

6. **REPORT OF THE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES**

- ◆ Ross Fasman stated that he will do a presentation and is in the process of making a video. The Spring Musical will be on March 29<sup>th</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:30pm in the auditorium. The Academy Awards showing Help will be played from 3pm to 5pm. The band will play in the Greek parade is on March 25, 2012. The state championships for the girls' basketball will be in Lyndhurst. The cheerleaders won the National Awards. Each club will donate \$250 and will have bricks that you can purchase for \$100 to have your name engraved on it. This is for the Senior Courtyard as the September 11<sup>th</sup> Memorial.

7. **BOARD SECRETARY REPORT – JANUARY 2012**

- ◆ For the month of January 2012.

	Motion by Mr. Carmelo Luppino	Seconded by Mrs. Linda McCue	
	To approve the Board Secretary Report for the month of January 2012.	On roll call, Motion carried. Mrs. Angela Napolitano and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.	

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

- ◆ For the month of January 2012.

	Motion by Mrs. Linda McCue	Seconded by Mr. Peter Suh	
	To approve the Monthly Budget Status Certification for the month January 2012.	On roll call, Motion carried. Mrs. Angela Napolitano and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.	

9. **PUBLIC WORK SESSION**

- ◆ Mr. Carmelo Luppino stated that the girls won the Spirit Award for the Whole Cheerleader Camp.

10. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- ◆ Minutes from the Executive Session and Regular Business Meeting on February 27, 2012.

	Motion by Mr. Carmelo Luppino	Seconded by Mr. Peter Suh	
	To Approve Minutes from the Executive Session and Regular Business Meeting on February 27, 2012.	On roll call, Motion carried. Mrs. Linda McCue and Mr. Arthur Levine abstained. Mrs. Angela Napolitano and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.	

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

- ◆ Mr. Matthew Giacobbe board attorney stated that pursuant to the policy the public has been given three minutes to respond in giving all their questions upfront. Then the board has the option to respond back.
- ◆ Ms. Stephanie Stewart stated that she is happy to focus on technology but asked why she can't get access to see the board meetings on the internet. She asked if there is a problem with Time Warner.

- ◆ Mr. Arthur Levine stated that the board meetings are on the next day, Tuesday, at 5pm.
- ◆ Mr. Gary Novosielski the President of FLEA read a statement regarding comments made from Mr. Arthur Levine, Mrs. Linda McCue and Governor Christie regarding public education funding.
- ◆ Mr. David Sarnoff asked if the board can hire a transcriber to produce the minutes. Cheryl answers half the questions and then has to take notes is an undue burden on her. He had a question on the bills list about Northern Valley Regional. He also stated that School #1 had received new furniture. He asked if he could get the exact amount of money spent on the new Central Office space furniture.
- ◆ Mrs. Cheryl Balletto answered the question on the bills list. She stated the furniture will be on a bills list.
- ◆ Mrs. Mildred Federico asked why we are paying tuition so late for Northern Valley.
- ◆ Mr. Steven Engravalle stated that he will let Mrs. Federico know about the lateness and a resolution is not required for placements. They cannot vote no because it would deny a free and appropriate education.
- ◆ Mrs. Nancy Stern asked the reason for the resolution to authorize the Business Administrator to pay tuition. There is a meeting on Wednesday, Community Day. The petition does not go back to the Business Administrator. It is out of the hands of the board, is clarified on the website and it is good on the television. It is a disappointment that on the last day the budget comes out. The State aid had to wait and other districts had preliminary budgets before Fort Lee. As a courtesy it is nice to be able to review the budget.
- ◆ Mr. Howard Lipoff from FLEA stated that he is disappointed in the comments made about the state aid. We are still way down in state aid. There are layoffs and the aides are made part time and with no benefits. This is not anytime to celebrate. Many of our students walked out. Classes have been cut.
- ◆ Ms. Diane Sicari asked if the new board office will be accessible and is there parking. She also asked about technology and when will it be introduced to the grammar schools. It is a sad state of affairs by not giving them computers.
- ◆ Mr. Steven Engravalle stated that there are ample visitor parking spaces at the new central office location. Technology agrees with you. Our goal is to take away the old model computer class of forty minutes once a week. We can help train our teachers and implement this class on a regular basis. We will provide training, resources and pilot IPAD labs on a cart. We need to start with the Kindergarten and a technology replacement program. The Intel program has eight master teachers and they will turnkey to other teachers.
- ◆ Mrs. Tracy Mattei said thank you to the Athletic Director and the baseball team for a charity clinic. It warms her heart to teach little children.

12. **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>	
	Motion by Mr. Carmelo Luppino To Approve #1B	Motion by Mrs. Linda McCue On roll call, Motion carried. Mrs. Angela Napolitano and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.

<b><u>Buildings and Grounds</u></b>		
<b>#1B&amp;G</b>	<b>Authorization to Advertise for Bids for Central Office Renovation</b>	
	Motion by Mr. Carmelo Luppino To Approve #1B&G	Motion by Mrs. Linda McCue On roll call, Motion carried. Mrs. Angela Napolitano and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.

<b><u>Curriculum Committee</u></b>		
<b>#1CUR</b>	<b>Approval of Class Trips for a Cost to District of \$5,890.00</b>	
<b>#2CUR</b>	<b>Approval of Contract With Center for Applied Linguistics (CaI) to Provide Professional Development Services of The Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP) Totaling \$14,700 to be Funded by Title III Grant</b>	
<b>#3CUR</b>	<b>Approval – Submission of The NJEA Frederick L. HIPP Foundation for Excellence in Education Grant</b>	
<b>#4CUR</b>	<b>Approval – Memorandum of Understanding for Participation in NJDOE "Race to The Top" Grant Program</b>	
	Motion by Mr. Yusang Park To Approve #1CUR - #4CUR	Seconded by Peter Suh On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. John Bang abstained from #1CUR. Mrs. Angela Napolitano and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.

<b><u>Finance</u></b>		
<b>#1F</b>	<b>Approval – Current Bills List Totaling \$682,918.17</b>	
<b>#2F</b>	<b>Approval – Cafeteria Claims for January 2012 totaling \$114,316.39</b>	
<b>#3F</b>	<b>Approval - Extended School Day Program Claims for January 2012 totaling \$118,288.08</b>	
<b>#4F</b>	<b>Approval – Line Item Transfers for January 2012</b>	
<b>#5F</b>	<b>Approving The Certified Results of the Special School Election</b>	
<b>#6F</b>	<b>Adoption of Preliminary Budget for the 2012-2013 school year</b>	
	Motion by Mr. Joseph Surace To Approve #1F - #6F	Seconded by Mr. Peter Suh On roll call, Motion carried. Mrs. Angela Napolitano and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.

<b>Health-Welfare and Safety</b>			
<b>#1HWS</b>	Approval – <b>Approval of Home Instruction</b>		
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Motion by Mr. Carmelo Luppino To Approve #1HWS</td> <td>Seconded by Mr. Joseph Surace On roll call, Motion carried. Mrs. Angela Napolitano and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.</td> </tr> </table>	Motion by Mr. Carmelo Luppino To Approve #1HWS	Seconded by Mr. Joseph Surace On roll call, Motion carried. Mrs. Angela Napolitano and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.
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<b>Personnel</b>			
<b>#1P</b>	Approval - <b>Staff Trips and Conferences Totaling \$1,359.10</b>		
<b>#2P</b>	Approval – <b>Appointment of Claudia Scaran as Leave Replacement Music Teacher at School No. 2</b>		
<b>#3P</b>	Approval – <b>Appointment of Ashley DeGraaf as Leave Replacement at School No. 4</b>		
<b>#4P</b>	Approval – <b>Appointment of Vivian Bumbaco as Leave Replacement at Lewis F. Cole Middle School</b>		
<b>#5P</b>	Approval – <b>Appointment of Melissa Rivero As Leave Replacement At Fort Lee Early Childhood Center</b>		
<b>#6P</b>	Approval – <b>Additional Substitutes for the 2011-2012 school year</b>		
<b>#7P</b>	Approval – <b>Additional Tutors for the 2011-2012 school year funded by Title I</b>		
<b>#8P</b>	Approval – <b>Additional Substitute Tutor for the 2011-2012 school year</b>		
<b>#9P</b>	Approval – <b>Appointment of Coaches for the Spring Season for the 2011-2012 school year</b>		
<b>#10P</b>	Approval – <b>Rescinding the Appointment of Barbara Oliveri as Leave Replacement for Middle School Mathematics</b>		
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Motion by Mr. Peter Suh To Approve #1P - #10P</td> <td>Seconded by Mr. Carmelo Luppino On roll call, Motion carried. Mrs. Angela Napolitano and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.</td> </tr> </table>	Motion by Mr. Peter Suh To Approve #1P - #10P	Seconded by Mr. Carmelo Luppino On roll call, Motion carried. Mrs. Angela Napolitano and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.
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<b>#1T</b>	Approval – <b>Disposal of Equipment</b>		
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Motion by Mr. Joseph Surace To Approve #1T</td> <td>Seconded by Mrs. Linda McCue On roll call, Motion carried. Mrs. Angela Napolitano and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.</td> </tr> </table>	Motion by Mr. Joseph Surace To Approve #1T	Seconded by Mrs. Linda McCue On roll call, Motion carried. Mrs. Angela Napolitano and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.
Motion by Mr. Joseph Surace To Approve #1T	Seconded by Mrs. Linda McCue On roll call, Motion carried. Mrs. Angela Napolitano and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.		

- ♦ Mr. Yusang Park stated that on February 11, 2012 he attended a course for the salary guide and the areas to work on. He passed out a salary guide analysis to the board.

13. At approximately 8:52 PM, Mrs. Linda McCue, 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.  
3-6-12