

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

**MINUTES – SPECIAL PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING**

Monday, April 28, 2014

Fort Lee High Library/Media Center,  
3000 Lemoine Ave. Fort Lee, New Jersey 07024

1. The Public Work Session was called to order at 8:05 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:

Mrs. Esther Han Silver, Mrs. Holly Morell, 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,  
Mr. Dennis McKeever, Esq., Mr. Michael Morell and Mr. Michael Zhadanovsky

ABSENT:

Mrs. Candace Romba and Mr. Jeff Weinberg

At approximately 8:15 PM, Mr. Yusang Park read a statement reviewing the history and status of the FLEA negotiations process.

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

- ◆ Mr. Paul Saxton presented the proposed 2014-2015 budget utilizing a PowerPoint presentation. He also introduced Mr. Rinderknecht who then explained certain aspects of the budget. Mr. Saxton reported that the PowerPoint presentation would be available on the district website.

**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                  |  |

- ◆ Student Board members Mr. Morell and Mr. Zhadanovsky reported on various events, including Career Day, Annual Spring Concert, Senior Class Prom, Black Light Dance and the Computer Club fundraiser.
- ◆ Mr. Yusang Park congratulated all participants involved with the School #4 fundraiser.
- ◆ There were no other Committee Reports.

**7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – None**

Mr. David Sarnoff, offered, seconded by Mrs. Esther Han Silver, to open the meeting for Public Work Session. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

**8. PUBLIC WORK SESSION**

Mr. David Sarnoff reported that the Master Plan will be available on the district website tomorrow.

Mrs. Holly Morell, offered, seconded by Ms. Helen Yoon, to open the meeting to the public for the Public Hearing on the Budget and any other questions from the public. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

- ◆ A question was asked as to what the anticipated balances are for the General fund and Capital Reserve Fund as of June 30, 2014 and June 30, 2015.
- ◆ Mr. David Rinderknecht responded with the anticipated balances.
- ◆ A question was presented concerning the status and schedule for proposed modular classrooms at School #2.
- ◆ FLEA president, Bruna Capalbo requested a copy of staff to be rehired. It was pointed out that there is a copy available tonight for the public to review. She also inquired about the Bloomfield College proposal in resolution #2CUR. Mr. Paul Saxton explained the program.
- ◆ There was also a question about funding of the State mandates and what other districts are doing. It was explained that all districts are required to comply with the same mandates. Other issues regarding modular classrooms and available space for increased enrollment were addressed.

At approximately, 9:10 PM, Mr. Peter Suh, offered, seconded by Mr. Joseph Surace, to close the Public Hearing on the Budget and the questions and answers session. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

9. **QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS LISTED ON TONIGHT'S AGENDA AND ANY OTHER TOPIC OF CONCERN- None**

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

<b><u>Buildings and Grounds</u></b>		
<b>#1B&amp;G</b>	<b>ACCEPTANCE OF MASTER PLAN</b>	
<b>#2B&amp;G</b>	<b>AWARD BID FOR THE FORT LEE HIGH SCHOOL ALTERATIONS AND RENOVATIONS</b>	
	Motion by Mr. Joseph Surace To Approve #1B&G & #2B&G	Seconded by Mr. Peter Suh On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mrs. Candace Romba, Mr. Jeff Weinberg and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.

<b><u>Curriculum Committee</u></b>		
<b>#1CUR</b>	<b>APPROVAL OF CLASS TRIPS AT NO COST TO THE DISTRICT</b>	
<b>#2CUR</b>	<b>APPROVAL OF PROPOSAL FROM BLOOMFIELD COLLEGE FOR TICKET PROGRAM</b>	
	Motion by Mrs. Esther Han Silver To Approve #1CUR & #2CUR	Seconded by Mrs. Holly Morell On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Joseph Surace abstained from Resolution #1CUR. Mr. Yusang Park abstained from Resolution #2CUR. Mrs. Candace Romba, Mr. Jeff Weinberg and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.

<b><u>Finance</u></b>		
<b>#1F</b>	<b>ADOPTION OF FINAL BUDGET FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR</b>	
<b>#2F</b>	<b>AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT AN AMENDMENT OF THE IDEA GRANT FOR 2013-2014</b>	
<b>#3F</b>	<b>AWARD BID FOR BAND UNIFORMS</b>	
	Motion by Mr. Joseph Surace To Approve #1F - #3F	Seconded by Mr. Peter Suh On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mrs. Candace Romba and Mr. Jeff Weinberg were absent.

<b>Personnel</b>			
<b>#1P</b>	<b>APPROVAL - STAFF TRIPS AND CONFERENCES TOTALING \$998.28</b>		
<b>#2P</b>	<b>RETIREMENT OF JOANNE TAUB AS ELEMENTARY TEACHER AT SCHOOL NO. 4</b>		
<b>#3P</b>	<b>RESIGNATION OF FRANKLIN FERRARA AS CHEMISTRY TEACHER AT FORT LEE HIGH SCHOOL</b>		
<b>#4P</b>	<b>REDUCTION IN FORCE</b>		
<b>#5P</b>	<b>APPOINTMENT OF STAFF MEMBERS FOR 2014-2015</b>		
<b>#6P</b>	<b>WITHHOLDING OF EMPLOYMENT AND ADJUSTMENT INCREMENTS FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR - PULLED</b>		
<b>#7P</b>	<b>APPOINTMENT OF AIMEE BABBIN AS CHEMISTRY TEACHER AT FORT LEE HIGH SCHOOL</b>		
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Motion by Mrs. Holly Morell To Approve #1P - #7P Resolution #6P-PULLED</td> <td>Seconded by Mrs. Esther Han Silver On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mrs. Candace Romba and Mr. Jeff Weinberg were absent.</td> </tr> </table>	Motion by Mrs. Holly Morell To Approve #1P - #7P Resolution #6P-PULLED	Seconded by Mrs. Esther Han Silver On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mrs. Candace Romba and Mr. Jeff Weinberg were absent.
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<b>Policy</b>			
<b>#1POL</b>	<b>FIRST READING OF REVISED POLICY 5111 AND REGULATION R5111 ELIGIBILITY OF RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT PUPILS</b>		
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11. **OLD BUSINESS** – None
12. **NEW BUSINESS** – Mr. Peter Suh proposed looking into bussing of students as a means of reducing traffic at the schools.
13. At approximately 9:17 PM, Mrs. Holly Morell, offered, seconded by Mr. Peter Suh, to adjourn the Public Work Session. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

  
 DAVID L. RINDERKNECHT  
 INTERIM BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY