

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

MINUTES – PUBLIC WORK SESSION

Monday, July 15, 2013

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

1. The Public Work Session was called to order at 8:17 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: 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.

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: Dr. Sharon Amato, Mr. Robert Brown and Dennis McKeever, Esq.

ABSENT: None

5. PRIVATE WORK SESSION**6. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

- ◆ Mrs. Candace Romba awarded a plaque to Edward Young of Outback Steakhouse in Edgewater.
- ◆ End of Year Report

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS – Reported by Chairperson of respective committee

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 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 | |

- ◆ Board President Report – Mr. Yusang Park stated that in lieu of taxes he was concerned about a property in Fort Lee. Mrs. Han Silver went to the Executive Session of the Mayor and Council and spoke about this development and can the school district receive a part of the aid in lieu money. Mr. Joseph Surace asked if the agreement is for thirty years. A Board representative will attend the next Mayor and Council meeting concerning this project.
- ◆ School Security Report – Mr. David Sarnoff presented a report.
- ◆ Buildings & Grounds Report – Mr. Carmelo Luppino presented a report.
- ◆ Finance Report – Mr. Joseph Surace gave a financial update.

8. PUBLIC WORK SESSION

At approximately 8:54 PM, Mr. Peter Suh, offered, Mrs. Holly Morell, seconded by, to begin Public Comment. 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

- ◆ A resident would like board representation at the planning board meetings to protect the school district's interest.
- ◆ A resident asked how the construction projects are going. She stated that the schools need air conditioning.
- ◆ Dr. Sharon Amato answered that we are going to do some of the projects with capital reserve.
- ◆ A resident stated that the audio of taping meetings needs improvement.
- ◆ A resident asked if a committee could be formed to monitor activities in the borough affecting property values and school enrollment.
- ◆ A resident asked about the High School graduation occurring on 179 school days and is this legal?
- ◆ A resident asked if the schools would be closing in October for the special election.
- ◆ A resident asked why wasn't tonight's meeting taped.
- ◆ Dr. Sharon Amato stated that no one was available.
- ◆ Mrs. Nancy Stern asked about Mr. Robert Brown not being an approved signatory and will documents still be signed. She also asked about paying CPA dues for Cheryl Balletto.
- ◆ Dr. Sharon Amato stated that there are backup signatures for paying the bills.
- ◆ A resident asked how the Interim Superintendent's contract get approved that was over the cap of the government's directive.
- ◆ Mr. Dennis McKeever stated that the contract did not exceed the cap.
- ◆ A resident asked the status of hiring a High School Principal.

- ◆ A resident asked could Mandarin be included in the Language Arts Program.
- ◆ A resident asked what is the Board's policy on keeping the Executive minutes and in what detail.
- ◆ A resident asked if there are negotiations scheduled for the near future.
- ◆ Mr. Dennis McKeever answered yes in September.
- ◆ A resident asked if there was soil testing at the Middle School and what was the results.
- ◆ Dr. Sharon Amato said we are waiting and should get a Board Report.

10. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from the Special Public Work Session on June 20, 2013 and the Executive Session and Regular Business Meeting on June 26, 2013.

	Motion by Mrs. Holly Morell	Seconded by Mrs. Candace Romba
	The minutes from the Special Public Work Session on June 20, 2013 and the Executive Session and Regular Business Meeting on June 26, 2013.	On roll call, Motion carried. Abstentions –Mr. Peter Suh,

11. **ALL RESOLUTIONS AND REPORTS OF COMMITTEES - TABLED**

<u>Buildings and Grounds</u>	
#1B&G	APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDERS
#2B&G	APPROVAL OF PROPOSAL FOR APPLIED DATA SERVICES DEMOGRAPHIC STUDY UPDATE
#3B&G	APPROVAL – AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT ROD GRANT/DEBT SERVICE APPLICATIONS FOR FUTURE REFERENDUM PROJECT FOR DISTRICT SECURITY UPGRADE

<u>Finance</u>	
#1F	APPROVAL – CURRENT BILLS LIST TOTALING \$6,790,518.81
#2F	APPROVAL – PAYMENT OF NEW JERSEY VEHICLE REGISTRATION RENEWALS
#3F	APPROVAL – REVISED BREAKFAST AND LUNCH PRICES FOR 2013-2014
#4F	APPROVAL OF MR. ROBERT BROWN AS ADDITIONAL SIGNATORY
#5F	APPROVAL – REVISED NAVIANCE SOFTWARE PROPOSAL
#6F	APPROVAL – ACCEPTANCE OF 2012-2013 EXTRAORDINARY AID FUNDS

<u>Personnel</u>	
#1P	APPROVAL – STAFF TRIPS AND CONFERENCES TOTALING \$73.12

#2P	APPROVAL – RESIGNATION OF KRISTINE CECERE AS LANGUAGE ARTS TEACHER AT LEWIS F. COLE MIDDLE SCHOOL
#3P	APPROVAL – VOLUNTARY TRANSFER OF LAURIE BUTLER FROM HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR SECRETARY TO HUMAN RESOURCE CONFIDENTIAL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT IN CENTRAL OFFICE
#4P	APPROVAL – MATERNITY LEAVE KATHLEEN FORMA AS ELEMENTARY TEACHER AT SCHOOL NO. 3
#5P	APPROVAL – APPOINTMENT OF HEATHER MARION AS ELEMENTARY TEACHER AT SCHOOL NO. 2
#6P	APPROVAL – APPOINTMENT OF CENEIDA RAMIREZ AS CUSTODIAN AT SCHOOL NO. 3
#7P	APPROVAL – APPOINTMENT OF IRENE O'BRIEN AS PART-TIME CLERK TYPIST AT SCHOOL NO. 1
#8P	APPROVAL – APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL DISRICT COORDINATORS FOR 2013-2014
#9P	APPROVAL – APPOINTMENT OF CURRICULUM WRITERS
#10P	APPROVAL – APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL STAFF FOR 2013 EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR SUMMER PROGRAM
#11P	APPROVAL – ADDITIONAL SUMMER 2013 EMPLOYMENT
#12P	APPROVAL – SALARY ADJUSTMENT FOR EDWIN LAZO AS BUS AIDE FOR 2013-2014

12. **OLD BUSINESS**

13. **NEW BUSINESS**


- ◆ Mr. Yusang Park stated that all board members should receive last minute adjustments on the agenda sent to the board members.

14. At approximately 9:45 PM, Mr. Peter Suh, offered, Mr. Joseph Surace, seconded by, to adjourn the Public Work Session and go into the Private Work Session to discuss personnel with no action to be taken. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

15. At approximately 11:20 PM, Mr. David Sarnoff, offered, Mrs. Esther Han Silver, seconded by, to adjourn the Private Work Session and adjourn the meeting. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

Roll calls and resolutions of this meeting are attached.

Respectfully submitted,



 ROBERT R. BROWN
 INTERIM BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY