

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

MINUTES – REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

April 29, 2013

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

1. The Regular Business Meeting was called to order at 8:43 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. 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. Peter Suh, Mr. Joseph Surace, and Mr. Yusang Park

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Sharon Amato, Mrs. Cheryl Balletto, and Mr. Dennis McKeever, Esq.

ABSENT: Mr. David Sarnoff and Ms. Helen Yoon

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

- ◆ Performance Reports
- ◆ Lewis F. Cole Middle School won the Intermedia Gold Crown Award

6. **BOARD SECRETARY REPORT AND TREASURER'S REPORT FOR MARCH 2013**

- ◆ For the month of March 2013.

	Motion by Mrs. Mrs. Holly Morell To Approve the Board Secretary and Treasurer's Report for the month of March 2013.	Seconded by Mrs. Esther Han Silver On roll call, Motion carried.	
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7. **APPROVAL OF MONTHLY BUDGET STATUS CERTIFICATION – MARCH 2013**

- ◆ For the month of March 2013.

	Motion by Mr. Joseph Surace Monthly Budget Status Certification for the month of March 2013.	Seconded by Mr. Peter Suh On roll call, Motion carried.	
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8. **PUBLIC WORK SESSION**

- ◆ Mr. Joseph Surace asked who was going to Borough Hall and questioned \$300.
- ◆ Mrs. Cheryl Balletto said it was being used for transportation.
- ◆ Mr. Joseph Surace stated that Resolution #1HWS should show the total amount. He asked about Title I parent involvement.
- ◆ Mr. David Sarnoff said that this is the first time he is seeing Resolution #2HWS. He requested to pull this resolution to discuss it.
- ◆ Dr. Sharon Amato stated that the board attorney Mr. Dennis McKeever, Esq reviewed it but we can pull it.
- ◆ Mrs. Esther Han Silver asked if there is community service on Resolution #2P.

9. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes from the Special Private Work Session and the Special Public Work Session on Wednesday, March 20, 2013, and the Private Work Session and Regular Business Meeting on Thursday, March 28, 2013.

	Motion by Mr. Peter Suh Minutes from the Special Private Work Session and the Special Public Work Session on Wednesday, March 20, 2013, and the Private Work Session and Regular Business Meeting on Thursday, March 28, 2013.	Seconded by Mrs. Holly Morell On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. Carmelo Luppino and Ms. Helen Yoon abstained from the minutes on March 20, 2013. Mr. Peter Suh, Mr. Joseph Surace and Ms. Helen Yoon abstained from the minutes on March 28, 2013.	
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10. **QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS LISTED ON TONIGHT'S AGENDA AND ANY OTHER TOPIC OF CONCERN**

- ◆ Students came to speak in support of Ms. Dawn Kennedy.
- ◆ Gary Novelski stated that he worked with Ms. Kennedy and she goes above and beyond for the students and the principal stands behind her with facts and will file for an appropriate hearing. There are only yearly agreements on the shortened summer work week.
- ◆ Ms. Marianela Martin spoke about the state Performance Report for School #2 and the accomplishments of the teachers and students who work hard.
- ◆ Evelyn Gingranas stated that Ms. Martin is amazing and the bigger picture should be looked at and not only the numbers.
- ◆ Burkis Salstato stated that he has come to board meetings and the schools need stability. He handed out flyers.
- ◆ Irena Gargula stated that the students like Ms. Martin and School #2 is a good school. Dr. Amato was an ESL teacher and can do good things if given the chance.
- ◆ Ms. Diane Sicheri stated that this is like last year with a repeat of the last superintendent and why there aren't any attachments to Resolutions #3P and 11P.
- ◆ Mrs. Mildred Federico stated that she would like to echo sentiments and commented on the district's Professional Development Plan.
- ◆ Mrs. Aida Garcia asked if Resolution #2HWS will go out to bid.
- ◆ Mr. Dennis McKeever stated that the resolution is for professional services.
- ◆ A high school student stated he moved to Fort Lee in the fourth grade because the education is better here.
- ◆ Mr. Joseph Surace stated that you hear great things about the two directors here, teachers and Dr. Amato. He asked if you expected him to take her recommendation but don't. He stated that we have received many positive comments about Dr. Amato but then are also being told not to follow her recommendations.
- ◆ Ms. Spina stated that she is a fan of Dr. Amato.

11. **RESOLUTIONS AND REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

Board Committee		
#1B	APPROVAL - RESOLUTION REGARDING SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORT OF INCIDENTS OF HARASSMENT/INTIMIDATION/BULLYING	
	Motion by Mr. Carmelo Luppino To Approve #1B	Motion by Mr. Peter Suh On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. David Sarnoff and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.

Buildings and Grounds		
#1B&G	APPROVAL - AWARD OF BID SCHOOL NO. 4 ROOF PHASE I	
	Motion by Mr. Carmelo Luppino To Approve #1B&G	Seconded by Mrs. Esther Han Silver On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. David Sarnoff and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.

Curriculum Committee			
#1CUR	APPROVAL OF CLASS TRIPS AT A COST TO THE DISTRICT OF \$905.00		
#2CUR	GENERAL EDUCATION PRESCHOOL PROGRAM		
#3CUR	APPROVAL OF SUMMER 2013 PROGRAMS		
#4CUR	APPROVAL OF DISTRICT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR 2013-2014		
#5CUR	APPROVAL OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA) K-8 TEXTBOOKS AND SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS FOR THE 2013-2014 SCHOOL YEAR		
#6CUR	APPROVAL OF AMENDED SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR 2013-2014		
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Motion by Mrs. Candace Romba To Approve #1CUR - #6CUR</td> <td>Seconded by Mrs. Holly Morell On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. David Sarnoff and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.</td> </tr> </table>	Motion by Mrs. Candace Romba To Approve #1CUR - #6CUR	Seconded by Mrs. Holly Morell On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. David Sarnoff and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.
Motion by Mrs. Candace Romba To Approve #1CUR - #6CUR	Seconded by Mrs. Holly Morell On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. David Sarnoff and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.		

Finance			
#1F	APPROVAL – CURRENT BILLS LIST TOTALING \$9,745,209.51		
#2F	APPROVAL – CAFETERIA CLAIMS FOR MARCH 2013 TOTALING \$110,717.66		
#3F	APPROVAL - EXTENDED SCHOOL DAY PROGRAM CLAIMS FOR MARCH 2013 TOTALING \$6,606.00		
#4F	APPROVAL – LINE ITEM TRANSFERS FOR MARCH 2013		
#5F	SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT FOR 2013-2014		
#6F	ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS TOTALING \$2,423.30		
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Motion by Mr. Joseph Surace To Approve #1F - #6F</td> <td>Seconded by Mr. Peter Suh On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. Joseph Surace abstained from two names on Resolution #1F. Mr. David Sarnoff and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.</td> </tr> </table>	Motion by Mr. Joseph Surace To Approve #1F - #6F	Seconded by Mr. Peter Suh On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. Joseph Surace abstained from two names on Resolution #1F. Mr. David Sarnoff and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.
Motion by Mr. Joseph Surace To Approve #1F - #6F	Seconded by Mr. Peter Suh On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. Joseph Surace abstained from two names on Resolution #1F. Mr. David Sarnoff and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.		

Health-Welfare and Safety			
#1HWS	PAYMENT OF HOME INSTRUCTION		
#2HWS Pulled	APPROVAL OF PALESTIS EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANTS PROPOSAL FOR A PROGRAM REVIEW OF SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES		
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Motion by Mrs. Candace Romba To Approve #1HWS. #2HWS was pulled.</td> <td>Seconded by Mrs. Esther Han Silver On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. David Sarnoff and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.</td> </tr> </table>	Motion by Mrs. Candace Romba To Approve #1HWS. #2HWS was pulled.	Seconded by Mrs. Esther Han Silver On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. David Sarnoff and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.
Motion by Mrs. Candace Romba To Approve #1HWS. #2HWS was pulled.	Seconded by Mrs. Esther Han Silver On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. David Sarnoff and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.		

Personnel			
#1P	APPROVAL - STAFF TRIPS AND CONFERENCES TOTALING \$823.89		
#2P	APPROVAL OF JOB DESCRIPTION: SUPERVISOR OF PUPIL PERSONNEL SERVICES		
#3P	APPOINTMENT OF STAFF MEMBERS FOR THE 2013-2014 SCHOOL YEAR (As amended)		
#4P	APPOINTMENT OF DISTRICT PHYSICIANS FOR THE 2013-2014 SCHOOL YEAR		
#5P	APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTES FOR 2013-2014 SCHOOL YEAR		
#6P	ADDITIONAL SUBSTITUTES FOR THE 2012-2013 AND 2013-2014 SCHOOL YEARS		
#7P	DISTRICT TRANSLATING SERVICES		
#8P	LONGEVITY PAYMENTS FOR 2012-2013 SCHOOL YEAR		
#9P	RESIGNATION OF JACLYN CORCORAN AS CHEERLEADER ADVISOR FOR 2012-2013		
#10P	EXTRA COMPENSATION FOR PARENT INVOLVEMENT WORKSHOPS		
#11P	REDUCTION IN FORCE		
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Motion by Mr. Peter Suh To Approve #1P - #11P</td> <td>Seconded by Mr. Carmelo Luppino On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. Carmelo Luppino abstained from Resolution #5P. Mr. Peter Suh abstained from Resolution #3P. Mr. Joseph Surace abstained from Resolution #3P, #5P and #6P. Mr. David Sarnoff and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.</td> </tr> </table>	Motion by Mr. Peter Suh To Approve #1P - #11P	Seconded by Mr. Carmelo Luppino On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. Carmelo Luppino abstained from Resolution #5P. Mr. Peter Suh abstained from Resolution #3P. Mr. Joseph Surace abstained from Resolution #3P, #5P and #6P. Mr. David Sarnoff and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.
Motion by Mr. Peter Suh To Approve #1P - #11P	Seconded by Mr. Carmelo Luppino On roll call, Motion carried. Mr. Carmelo Luppino abstained from Resolution #5P. Mr. Peter Suh abstained from Resolution #3P. Mr. Joseph Surace abstained from Resolution #3P, #5P and #6P. Mr. David Sarnoff and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.		

12. **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

- ◆ Mr. David Sarnoff gave a Security Committee Report.
- ◆ Mrs. Holly Morell gave a Negotiations, Policy and Personnel Committee Report.
- ◆ Mrs. Candace Romba gave a Curriculum Committee Report.

13. At approximately 10:00 PM, Mr. Peter Suh, offered, Mrs. Esther Han Silver, seconded by, to adjourn the Regular Business Meeting and entered into Private Session for the purpose of personnel. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously. No action to be taken.
14. At approximately 11:00 PM, Mrs. Holly Morell, offered, Mr. Peter Suh, seconded by, to adjourn the Private Work Session and entered into Regular Business Meeting. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.
15. At approximately 11:05 PM, Mr. Carmelo Luppino, 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,

CHERYL BALLETO
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY

CB/mp
Att.
5-13-13