

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

MINUTES – REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

Monday, August 25, 2014

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

1. The Public Work Session was called to order at 8:03 PM by Mr. Yusang Park, President of the Fort Lee Board of Education.
2. Mrs. Holly Morell 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, Mrs. Candace Romba, Mr. David Sarnoff, Mr. Joseph Surace, and Mr. Yusang Park

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

ABSENT: Mr. Peter Suh, Mr. Jeff Weinberg and Ms. Helen Yoon

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

- ◆ Mr. Paul Saxton introduced Dr. John Campion, District Consultant for Special Services and Mrs. Priscilla Church, Director of Special Services. Priscilla Church presented the reorganization plan. She explained that it is an ability-based plan and is school based.
- ◆ Mr. Paul Saxton introduced Dr. Robert Rosado of R-Pat Solutions, LLC. Dr. Rosado introduced his company and explained the process that will be followed to conduct the Superintendent search for the Fort Lee Board of Education. A question and answer period followed.
- ◆ Mr. Paul Saxton introduced the High School Principal, Dr. Calabria who in turn introduced Mr. Joseph Finizio who is on the agenda for approval as Vice-Principal at the High School.
- ◆ Mr. Paul Saxton also introduced Mrs. Marianela Martin, School #2 Principal. She explained improvements to the macadam and playground that are being done in conjunction with installation of the temporary classrooms.
- ◆ Mr. Yusang Park announced that the ranking of the Fort Lee School District was increased by New Jersey Monthly from #97 to #81.

6. **COMMITTEE REPORTS – Reported by Chairperson of respective committee**

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| 1. Board Report (by President) | 8. Finance |
| 2. Negotiations | 9. Technology – District Technology Purchase |
| 3. School Security | 10. Contracts and Legal |
| 4. Buildings & Grounds | 11. Athletics and Community Involvement |
| 5. Personnel | 12. Sick Day Bank |
| 6. Curriculum | 13. Superintendent Search |
| 7. Policy | |

- ◆ Mr. David Sarnoff reported that he and Mrs. Candace Romba met with the Mayor and Council regarding the proposed referendum. He noted that Mr. Scott Mihalick of SSP made a presentation of the planned solutions and classroom shortage and that it was a very positive meeting.
- ◆ Mrs. Esther Han Silver reported that the Policy Committee met this evening and she noted that there are many policy changes included on the agenda tonight.

7. **BOARD SECRETARY REPORT AND TREASURER’S REPORT FOR JULY 2014**

- ◆ For the month of July 2014.

	Motion by Mr. Joseph Surace To Approve the Board Secretary and Treasurer’s Report for the month of July 2014.	Seconded by Mrs. Holly Morell On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Peter Suh, Mr. Jeff Weinberg and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.	
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8. **APPROVAL OF MONTHLY BUDGET STATUS CERTIFICATION – JULY 2014**

- ◆ For the month of July 2014.

	Motion by Mr. Joseph Surace Monthly Budget Status Certification for the month of July 2014.	Seconded by Mrs. Holly Morell On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Peter Suh, Mr. Jeff Weinberg and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.	
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9. PUBLIC WORK SESSION

Mrs. Holly Morell, offered, seconded by Mr. David Sarnoff, to open the meeting for Public Work Session portion of the meeting. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

- ◆ Mr. David Sarnoff asked if state mandates are causing policy changes. Dr. Sharon Amato explained that the changes are cumulative since June and that many of them are due to law changes.

Mrs. Candace Romba, offered, seconded by Mr. David Sarnoff, to open the meeting for Public Comments and Questions. 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

- ◆ Comments and questions from the public included plans for the access road from the Lewis F. Cole Middle School property past the Recreation Center. Other topics included the need to include the words "pending conclusion of negotiations" when approving staff appointments, use of fields, approval of transfer of employees, staggering of school opening times and how enrollment projections were developed.
- ◆ Other matters discussed involved expense reimbursement to the former Business Administrator, FLEA negotiations and the Middle School traffic study.

At 9:53PM, Mrs. Holly Morell, offered, seconded by Mr. David Sarnoff, to close the meeting for Public Comments and Questions. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

11. ALL RESOLUTIONS AND REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Board Committee		
#1B	APPROVE PRIVATE WORK SESSION	
#2B	APPROVAL OF PROPOSAL FROM R-PAT SOLUTIONS. LLC TO CONDUCT SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH	
	Motion by Mrs. Candace Romba To Approve #1B & #2B	Seconded by Mr. David Sarnoff On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Peter Suh, Mr. Jeff Weinberg and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.

Buildings and Grounds		
#1B&G	APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDERS	
	Motion by Mr. Joseph Surace To Approve #1B&G	Seconded by Mrs. Holly Morell On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Peter Suh, Mr. Jeff Weinberg and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.

Curriculum Committee	
#1CUR	APPROVAL OF ADULT LITERACY PROGRAM WITH BERGEN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOLS AT NO COST TO THE DISTRICT

#2CUR	APPROVAL OF DR. JANE PETROZZINO AS PRESENTER FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR THE CHILD STUDY TEAM TOTALING \$600.00	
#3CUR	APPROVAL OF NASSAU BOCES READING RECOVERY PROGRAM AT COST OF \$1,995.00	
	Motion by Mrs. Holly Morell To Approve #1CUR - #3CUR	Seconded by Mrs. Candace Romba On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Peter Suh, Mr. Jeff Weinberg and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.

Finance		
#1F	APPROVAL – CURRENT BILLS LIST TOTALING \$4,520,759.75	
#2F	APPROVAL – LINE ITEM TRANSFERS FOR JULY 2014	
#3F	APPROVAL OF CLIFFSIDE PARK TRANSPORTATION CONTRACTS FOR 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR	
#4F	ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION	
#5F	APPROVAL OF OFFICE TEAM AGREEMENT	
	Motion by Mr. Peter Suh To Approve #1F - #5F	Seconded by Mrs. Candace Romba On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Peter Suh, Mr. Jeff Weinberg and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.

Health-Welfare and Safety		
#1HWS	PAYMENT OF HOME INSTRUCTION SERVICES	
#2HWS	APPROVAL OF OUTSIDE PLACEMENTS FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR	
#3HWS	APPROVAL OF DR. SUKHA RUMASWAMY AS BOARD CERTIFIED BEHAVIOR ANALYST (BCBA) FOR 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR	
#4HWS	APPROVAL OF DELTA-T FOR SUPPLEMENTAL SERVICES TO THE CHILD STUDY TEAM FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR	
#5HWS	APPROVAL OF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROCEDURE MANUAL	
	Motion by Mrs. Esther Han Silver To Approve #1HWS - #5HWS	Seconded by Mr. David Sarnoff On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Peter Suh, Mr. Jeff Weinberg and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.

Personnel		
#1P	APPROVAL - STAFF TRIPS AND CONFERENCES TOTALING \$1,213.78	
#2P	RESIGNATION OF JOHN COVIELLO AS ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL AT LEWIS F. COLE MIDDLE SCHOOL	
#3P	RESIGNATION OF PALAK PATEL AS 1:1 AIDE AT SCHOOL NO. 4	
#4P	RESIGNATION OF KAITLIN DISTASI AS PART-TIME PHYSICAL EDUCATION AIDE AT SCHOOL NO. 1	
	Motion by Mrs. Holly Morell To Approve #1P - #4P	Seconded by Mrs. Candace Romba On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Peter Suh, Mr. Jeff Weinberg and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.
#5P	APPROVAL OF MEDICAL LEAVE FOR CENEIDA RAMIREZ AS A CUSTODIAN AT SCHOOL NO. 3	
	Motion by Mrs. Candace Romba To Approve #5P	Seconded by Mrs. Holly Morell On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Peter Suh, Mr. Jeff Weinberg and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.
#6P	APPROVAL OF EXTENDED MEDICAL LEAVE FOR VITA ORTIZIO AS A 12- MONTH SECRETARY AT LEWIS F. COLE MIDDLE SCHOOL	
#7P	APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE FOR EMPLOYEE #5235	
#8P	TRANSFER OF STAFF MEMBERS	
#9P	APPOINTMENT OF CO-CURRICULAR PERSONNEL FOR 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR	
	Motion by Mrs. Holly Morell To Approve #6P - #9P	Seconded by Mrs. Esther Han Silver On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Peter Suh, Mr. Jeff Weinberg and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.
#10P	APPOINTMENT OF ROBERT YAN AS CUSTODIAN AT SCHOOL NO. 1	
#11P	SALARY ADJUSTMENTS FOR EXTENDED LEAVE REPLACEMENTS	
#12P	APPOINTMENT OF JOSEPH FINIZIO AS ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL AT FORT LEE HIGH SCHOOL	
#13P	APPOINTMENT OF YITZHAK SHNIDMAN AS SCIENCE TEACHER AT FORT LEE HIGH SCHOOL	
#14P	APPOINTMENT OF LEAVE REPLACEMENTS DURING THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR	
#15P	TRANSFER OF LOLA NANNAS FROM 10-MONTH SECRETARY TO ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL TO 12-MONTH SECRETARY TO PRINCIPAL AT FORT LEE HIGH SCHOOL	
#16P	UNUSED VACATION PAYOUT FOR ARLENE SCALA AS 12-MONTH SECRETARY AT	

	LEWIS F. COLE MIDDLE SCHOOL	
#17P	APPOINTMENT OF FACULTY COORDINATORS FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR	
#18P	APPOINTMENT OF PART-TIME AIDES AT FORT LEE HIGH SCHOOL	
#19P	PLACEMENT OF ADDITIONAL STUDENT TEACHERS DURING THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR	
#20P	APPOINTMENT OF CHRISTY KEARNEY FROM 4/5TH TO FULL-TIME LDTC FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR	
#21P	APPOINTMENT OF ALYSSA CIOFFI AS PRESCHOOL CLASSROOM AIDE AT SCHOOL NO. 2	
#22P	APPOINTMENT OF SABREIN KHATER AS 1:1 AIDE AT SCHOOL NO. 4	
#23P	RESIGNATION OF TAMAR ALBERT-EPHRAT AS PART-TIME SCIENCE TEACHER AT LEWIS F. COLE MIDDLE SCHOOL	
#24P	APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL COACHES FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR	
#25P	ADDITIONAL SUBSTITUTES FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR	
	Motion by Mrs. Holly Morell To Approve #10P - #25P	Seconded by Mrs. Esther Han Silver On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Joseph Surace abstained from 1 name on Resolution #11P and #17P. Mr. Joseph Surace abstained from 21P. Mr. Peter Suh, Mr. Jeff Weinberg and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.

12. **OLD BUSINESS** – None

13. **NEW BUSINESS** – None

14. At approximately 10:05 AM, Mr. David Sarnoff, offered, seconded by Mrs. Esther Han Silver, to adjourn the Regular Business Meeting. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



DAVID L. RINDERKNECHT
INTERIM BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY