

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

MINUTES – PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING

Monday, June 29, 2015

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

1. The Regular Business Meeting was called to order at 8:09 PM by Mr. David Sarnoff, President of the Fort Lee Board of Education.
2. Mr. Jeff Weinberg 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. Yusang Park, Mr. Ammad Quraishi, Mrs. Candace Romba, Mr. Joseph Surace, Mr. Jeff Weinberg and Mr. David Sarnoff

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

ABSENT: Mr. Michael Osso, Mr. Michael Zhadanovsky and Ms. Arielle Vertsman

5. REPORT OF THE INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

- ◆ Mr. Paul Saxton commented on his service to the Fort Lee Board of Education as the Interim Superintendent. Mr. David Sarnoff expressed the appreciation of the Board for his outstanding service and presented Mr. Saxton with a plaque.
- ◆ Mr. David Sarnoff also thanked Mr. David Rinderknecht for his service and presented him with a plaque.

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 | 12. Sick Day Bank |

- ◆ Personnel Committee Report – Mrs. Holly Morell, chairperson of the Personnel Committee, reported that the committee met and discussed various matters, including transfers, the personnel department salary withholding and salary increases.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the Private Executive Session and the Special Public Business Meeting 7:00PM and the Special Public Business Meeting 8:00PM on June 15, 2015.

	Motion by Mrs. Holly Morell	Seconded by Mrs. Candace Romba
	The minutes from the Private Executive Session and the Special Public Business Meeting 7:00PM and the Special Public Business Meeting 8:00PM on June 15, 2015.	On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Michael Osso was absent.

8. BOARD SECRETARY REPORT AND TREASURER’S REPORT FOR MAY 2015

- ◆ For the month of May 2015.

	Motion by Mr. Joseph Surace	Seconded by Mrs. Holly Morell
	To Approve the Board Secretary and Treasurer’s Report for the month of May 2015.	On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Michael Osso was absent.

9. APPROVAL OF MONTHLY BUDGET STATUS CERTIFICATION – MAY 2015

- ◆ For the month of May 2015.

	Motion by Mr. Joseph Surace	Seconded by Mr. Jeff Weinberg
	Monthly Budget Status Certification for the month of May 2015.	On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Michael Osso was absent.

10. **PUBLIC WORK SESSION**-None

Mrs. Holly Morell, offered, seconded by Mrs. Candace Romba, to open the Public Work Session portion of the meeting. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Holly Morell, offered, seconded by Mr. Yusang Park, to close the Public Work Session portion of the meeting. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Holly Morell offered, seconded by Mrs. Candace Romba, to open the meeting for Public Comments and Questions. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

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

♦ Various people in attendance including community members and staff thanked Mr. Paul Saxton for his service and what he has done to improve this school district. Mr. David Rinderknecht was recognized for his service as well.

At approximately 8:47 PM Mrs. Holly Morell offered, seconded by Mrs. Candace Romba, to close the meeting for Public Comments and Questions. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

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

<u>Board Committee</u>		
#2B	RESOLUTION REGARDING SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORT OF INCIDENTS OF HARASSMENT/INTIMIDATION/BULLYING	
#3B	MERIT PAY COMPENSATION FOR MR. PAUL J. SAXTON AS INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT FOR 2014-2015	
	Motion by Mr. Yusang Park To Approve #2B & #3B	Seconded by Mrs. Candace Romba On roll call, Motion carried for all resolutions except Resolutions #2B and #3B were voted NAY by Mr. Joseph Surace. Mr. Michael Osso was absent.

<u>Buildings and Grounds</u>		
#1B&G	APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDERS	
	Motion by Mrs. Holly Morell To Approve #1B&G	Seconded by Mrs. Candace Romba On roll call, Motion carried for all resolutions except Resolution #1B&G was voted NAY by Mr. Joseph Surace. Mr. Michael Osso was absent.

Curriculum Committee		
#1CUR	APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL CURRICULUM WRITERS FOR 2015-2016	
	Motion by Mrs. Holly Morell To Approve #1CUR	Seconded by Mr. Jeff Weinberg On roll call, Motion carried for Resolution #1CUR except Mr. Joseph Surace voted NAY. Mr. Michael Osso was absent.

Finance		
#1F	APPROVAL OF CURRENT BILLS LIST	
#2F	APPROVAL – LINE ITEM TRANSFERS FOR MAY 2015	
#3F	APPROVAL OF EQUIPMENT LEASE	
#4F	ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS	
#5F	RENEWAL OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE FOR 2015-2016	
	Motion by Mrs. Holly Morell To Approve #1F - #5F	Seconded by Mr. Yusang Park On roll call, Motion carried for all resolutions except Resolutions #1F - #5F was voted NAY by Mr. Joseph Surace. Mr. Michael Osso was absent.

Personnel	
#1P	APPROVAL OF ORGANIZATION CHART FOR 2015-2016
#2P	RESIGNATION OF CHRISTOPHER KULSCAR AS PART-TIME PHYSICAL EDUCATION AIDE AT SCHOOL NO. 1
#3P	APPROVING THE 2013-2014 SALARIES BASED UPON THE APPROVED MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT AND APPROVED SALARY GUIDES
#4P	CORRECTION TO EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR STAFF LIST FOR SUMMER 2015
#5P	APPOINTMENT OF ELISA SHEMESH AS PART-TIME SOCIAL WORKER FOR THE CHILD STUDY TEAM
#6P	APPOINTMENT OF SAMANTHA D'AURIA AS PART-TIME SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER FOR CHILD STUDY TEAM FOR THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR
#7P	APPOINTMENT OF ELISA CABRERA AS SPECIAL EDUCATION SCIENCE TEACHER AT LEWIS F. COLE MIDDLE SCHOOL FOR THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR
#8P	APPOINTMENT OF PETER CRAWLEY AS K-12 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPERVISOR FOR THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR

#9P	APPOINTMENT OF TARA SCHNEIDER AS K-12 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPERVISOR FOR THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR	
#10P	APPOINTMENT OF KRIS DEBLASIO AS PART-TIME 3/5THS SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER AT LEWIS F. COLE MIDDLE SCHOOL FOR THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR	
#11P	APPOINTMENT OF MAXINE VIOLA AS A 1:1 AIDE AT LEWIS F. COLE MIDDLE SCHOOL FOR THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR	
#12P	APPOINTMENT OF ELYSE BARUCH-HALPERIN AS PART-TIME LEARNING DISABILITIES TEACHER-CONSULTANT (LDT-C) FOR 2015-2016	
#13P	APPOINTMENT OF IRENE MIROSHNIK AS OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST FOR THE CHILD STUDY TEAM FOR THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR	
#14P	APPOINTMENT OF BRIAN LARCHEVEQUE AS SCIENCE TEACHER AT LEWIS F. COLE MIDDLE SCHOOL FOR THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR	
#15P	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSIGNMENT OF EMPLOYEE #4758	
#16P	WITHHOLDING OF AN EMPLOYMENT AND ADJUSTMENT INCREMENT FOR THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR	
#17P	TRANSFER OF LUDDY SERULLE GREEN AS ELEMENTARY TEACHER AT SCHOOL NO. 1 TO GUIDANCE COUNSELOR AT FORT LEE HIGH SCHOOL	
#18P	TRANSFER OF KARLI JEWETT AS ELEMENTARY TEACHER AT SCHOOL NO. 2 TO LDT-C FOR CHILD STUDY TEAM FOR 2015-2016	
#19P	TRANSFER OF SHERI STECKLER AS SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER AT LEWIS F. COLE MIDDLE SCHOOL TO SCHOOL NO. 1	
#20P	SALARY ADJUSTMENT FOR SUSAN AITKEN AS OFFICE MANAGER IN CENTRAL OFFICE [Motion Failed]	
#21P	APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS FOR THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR	
#22P	APPOINTMENT OF DISTRICT COORDINATORS FROM JULY 1, 2015 UNTIL THE REORGANIZATION MEETING IN JANUARY 2016	
#23P	10-MONTH TO 12-MONTH SECRETARIES	
#24P	MATERNITY LEAVE FOR JOANNE BAKAS AS AN ELEMENTARY TEACHER AT SCHOOL NO. 3	
	Motion by Mrs. Holly Morell To Approve #1P - #24P	Seconded by Mrs. Esther Han Silver On roll call, Motion carried for all resolutions except Resolution #1P and Resolution #20P Motions Failed. Resolution #1P Mrs. Candace Romba, Mrs. Esther Han Silver and Mr. Jeff Weinberg voted NAY. Resolutions #2P-#19P and #21-#24 were voted NAY by Mr. Joseph Surace. Resolution #18P Mrs. Candace Romba

		voted NAY. Resolution #20P Mr. Yusang Park, Mr. Joseph Surace and Mr. Jeff Weinberg voted NAY. Resolution #20P Mr. Ammad Quraishi abstained. Mr. Michael Osso was absent.
#25P	TRANSFER OF SCOTT BENDUL TO INTERIM SUPERVISOR OF BUILDINGS & GROUNDS FOR THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR	
#26P	APPOINTMENT OF TAMMI GIL AS HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER FROM JULY 1, 2015 TO DECEMBER 31, 2015	
#27P	TRANSFER OF DR. SHARON AMATO AS DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION FOR THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR	
	Motion by Mrs. Holly Morell To Approve #25P - #27P	Seconded by Mr. Ammad Quraishi On roll call, Motion carried for all resolutions except: Resolution #25P Mr. Joseph Surace abstained. Resolution #26P was voted NAY by Mr. Joseph Surace. Resolution #27 Mrs. Esther Han Silver, Mrs. Candace Romba and Mr. Jeff Weinberg voted NAY. Mr. Michael Osso was absent.

13. **OLD BUSINESS** – None

14. **NEW BUSINESS** – None

15. At approximately 8:55 PM, Mrs. Holly Morell, offered, seconded by Mr. Yusang Park, to adjourn the Regular Business Meeting. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



DAVID L. RINDERKNECHT
INTERIM BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY