

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

**MINUTES – PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING**

Monday, November 3, 2014

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

1. The Public Work Session was called to order at 8:10 PM by Mr. Joseph Surace, Vice 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, Mrs. Candace Romba, Mr. David Sarnoff, Mr. Joseph Surace and Mr. Jeff Weinberg

**ALSO PRESENT:** Dr. Sharon Amato, Mr. David L. Rinderknecht, Mr. Dennis McKeever, Esq. and Mr. Michael Zhadanovsky

**ABSENT:** Mr. Paul Saxton, Mr. Yusang Park, Ms. Helen Yoon, and Arielle Vertsman

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

- ◆ Mr. David Sarnoff reported that the Fort Lee High School football team beat Cliffside Park and that the soccer team lost to Don Bosco by one goal in double overtime.
- ◆ Dr. Sharon Amato introduced Mrs. Nancy Stern who received a plaque for the AOF, the School Leadership Award issued by the NJSBA. Mrs. Stern read the plaque and commented on the program. She was congratulated by everyone.
- ◆ Student Board member Michael Zhadanovsky reported on a meeting that the Student Council had with the administration today. He also spoke about an AOF Fundraiser.

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

- |                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 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. Sarnoff said that the Technology Committee met with parents to discuss future technology plans in the District.

**7. PUBLIC WORK SESSION – No questions or Comments****8. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS LISTED ON TONIGHT'S AGENDA AND ANY OTHER TOPIC OF CONCERN**

- ◆ Mr. George Porto inquired about change orders in Resolution #1B&G.
- ◆ Mr. David Rinderknecht responded that some change orders add to the cost of the project and some utilize allowances built into the cost of the project. Bids for many of the projects came in under budget.
- ◆ Mr. George Porto asked about the procedure for drawing on ROD Grant funds.
- ◆ Diane Sicheri related an incident involving her daughter in the woods as she encountered a stranger. She expressed concern about improving the safety of the area and stated that safety measures to be taken should not depend on the passing of the referendum.
- ◆ A question was raised regarding Resolution #10P. It was noted that Autistic classes are being relocated from School #1 to School #2.
- ◆ A question was raised regarding available funds for student trips, particularly to a senior home. Mr. Joseph Surace assured the question that there is money for the trip.
- ◆ Other questions related to filling the High School Principal and Business Administrator positions.
- ◆ Regarding the Board vacant seat, Mr. Dennis McKeever said that the time allowed to appoint someone to the vacant seat is 65 days and that is up on November 15, 2014. It is possible that the Board will interview candidates on November 17, 2014.
- ◆ A student spoke about the quarterly exam requirement and concerns that he has with taking quarterly exams as well as AP and IB exams.
- ◆ Dr. Sharon Amato explained the reasoning for the quarterly exams and said that the issue will be studied further.

At approximately 9:03 PM, Mrs. Candace Romba, offered, seconded by Mrs. Esther Han Silver, to close the Public Questions and Comments portion of the meeting. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

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

<b><u>Board Committee</u></b>			
<b>#1B</b>	<b>APPROVE PRIVATE WORK SESSION</b>		
<b>#2B</b>	<b>RESOLUTION REGARDING SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORT OF INCIDENTS OF HARASSMENT/INTIMIDATION/BULLYING</b>		
<b>#3B Pulled</b>	<b>APPROVAL OF PROPOSAL FROM R-PAT SOLUTIONS. LLC TO CONDUCT HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL AND BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR SEARCH</b>		
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Motion by Mrs. Candace Romba To Approve #1B - #3B Resolution #3B was pulled.</td> <td>Seconded by Mrs. Esther Han Silver On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Yusang Park and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.</td> </tr> </table>	Motion by Mrs. Candace Romba To Approve #1B - #3B Resolution #3B was pulled.	Seconded by Mrs. Esther Han Silver On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Yusang Park and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.
Motion by Mrs. Candace Romba To Approve #1B - #3B Resolution #3B was pulled.	Seconded by Mrs. Esther Han Silver On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Yusang Park and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.		

<b><u>Buildings and Grounds</u></b>			
<b>#1B&amp;G</b>	<b>APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDERS – AMCO ENTERPRISES, INC.</b>		
<b>#2B&amp;G</b>	<b>APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDERS – VANAS CONSTRUCTION</b>		
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Motion by Mrs. Holly Morell To Approve #1B&amp;G – 2B&amp;G</td> <td>Seconded by Mrs. Candace Romba On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Yusang Park and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.</td> </tr> </table>	Motion by Mrs. Holly Morell To Approve #1B&G – 2B&G	Seconded by Mrs. Candace Romba On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Yusang Park and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.
Motion by Mrs. Holly Morell To Approve #1B&G – 2B&G	Seconded by Mrs. Candace Romba On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Yusang Park and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.		

<b><u>Committee of the Whole</u></b>			
<b>#1CW</b>	<b>REVISED APPOINTMENT OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES TO THE BOARD</b>		
<b>#2CW</b>	<b>SUBMISSION OF AMENDED NEW JERSEY QUALITY SINGLE ACCOUNTABILITY CONTINUUM (NJQSAC) STATEMENT OF ASSURANCE (SOA) FOR 2014-2015</b>		
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Motion by Mrs. Esther Han Silver To Approve #1CW &amp; #2CW</td> <td>Seconded by Mrs. Candace Romba On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Yusang Park and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.</td> </tr> </table>	Motion by Mrs. Esther Han Silver To Approve #1CW & #2CW	Seconded by Mrs. Candace Romba On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Yusang Park and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.
Motion by Mrs. Esther Han Silver To Approve #1CW & #2CW	Seconded by Mrs. Candace Romba On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Yusang Park 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>		
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Motion by Mrs. Candace Romba To Approve #16CUR - #6cur</td> <td>Seconded by Mrs. Esther Han Silver On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Yusang Park and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.</td> </tr> </table>	Motion by Mrs. Candace Romba To Approve #16CUR - #6cur	Seconded by Mrs. Esther Han Silver On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Yusang Park and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.
Motion by Mrs. Candace Romba To Approve #16CUR - #6cur	Seconded by Mrs. Esther Han Silver On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Yusang Park and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.		

<b>Finance</b>			
<b>#1F</b>	<b>APPROVAL – CURRENT BILLS LIST TOTALING \$3,720,855.81</b>		
<b>#2F</b>	<b>DEBT SERVICE AID</b>		
<b>#3F</b>	<b>APPROVAL – LINE ITEM TRANSFERS FOR JUNE 2014 AUDIT ADJUSTMENT OF CYCLE 14</b>		
<b>#4F</b>	<b>APPROVAL OF MAXIMUM REIMBURSEMENT OF TRAVEL EXPENDITURES FOR 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR</b>		
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Motion by Mrs. Holly Morell To Approve #1F - #4F</td> <td>Seconded by Mrs. Candace Romba On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Yusang Park and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.</td> </tr> </table>	Motion by Mrs. Holly Morell To Approve #1F - #4F	Seconded by Mrs. Candace Romba On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Yusang Park and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.
Motion by Mrs. Holly Morell To Approve #1F - #4F	Seconded by Mrs. Candace Romba On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Yusang Park and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.		

<b>Health-Welfare and Safety</b>			
<b>#1HWS</b>	<b>PAYMENT OF HOME INSTRUCTION SERVICES</b>		
<b>#2HWS</b>	<b>APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL OUT-OF-DISTRICT PLACEMENTS FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR</b>		
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Motion by Mrs. Holly Morell To Approve #1HWS &amp; 2HWS</td> <td>Seconded by Mrs. Esther Han Silver On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Yusang Park and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.</td> </tr> </table>	Motion by Mrs. Holly Morell To Approve #1HWS & 2HWS	Seconded by Mrs. Esther Han Silver On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Yusang Park and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.
Motion by Mrs. Holly Morell To Approve #1HWS & 2HWS	Seconded by Mrs. Esther Han Silver On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Yusang Park and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.		

<b>Personnel</b>	
<b>#1P</b>	<b>APPROVAL - STAFF TRIPS AND CONFERENCES TOTALING \$251.84</b>
<b>#2P</b>	<b>APPROVAL OF REVISED EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT FOR DAVID L. RINDERKNECHT AS INTERIM BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY FOR 2014-2015</b>
<b>#3P</b>	<b>AMENDING THE TRANSFER DATE FOR STEPHEN DOMINGUEZ FROM SPECIAL EDUCATION ENGLISH TEACHER TO ENGLISH TEACHER AT FORT LEE HIGH SCHOOL</b>
<b>#4P</b>	<b>AMENDING START DATE FOR KLARISSA BRUNO AS SPECIAL EDUCATION ENGLISH TEACHER AT FORT LEE HIGH SCHOOL</b>
<b>#5P</b>	<b>ADJUST START DATE FOR JANE LEE AS LEAVE REPLACEMENT AT SCHOOL NO. 2</b>
<b>#6P</b>	<b>SALARY ADJUSTMENT FOR JOSE GALLARDO AS 1:1 AIDE AT SCHOOL NO. 1</b>
<b>#7P</b>	<b>AMENDED MATERNITY LEAVE FOR MICHELLE BAKER SCHRAMM AS AN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST AT SCHOOL NO. 1</b>
<b>#8P</b>	<b>AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 25756 FOR THE REVISED SUBSTITUTE LIST FOR 2013- 2014 SCHOOL YEAR</b>

#9P	<b>ADDITIONAL SUBSTITUTES FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR</b>	
#10P	<b>TRANSFER OF SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS AND AIDES FROM SCHOOL NO. 1 TO SCHOOL NO. 2</b>	
	Motion by Mrs. Holly Morell To Approve #1P - #10P	Seconded by Mrs. Esther Han Silver On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Yusang Park and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent. Mr. Jeff Weinberg voted NAY from Resolution #2P. Mrs. Holly Morell voted NAY to Resolution #4P. Mr. Joseph Surace abstained from Resolution #8P.

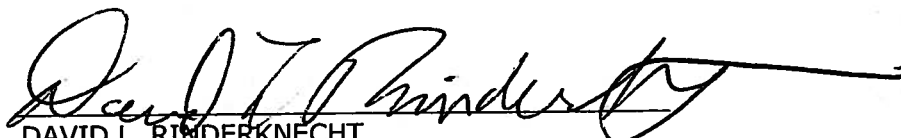
<b>Policy</b>		
#1POL	<b>SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF REVISED POLICIES</b>	
	Motion by Mrs. Esther Han Silver To Approve #1POL To remove Resolution #1POL from the agenda.	Seconded by Mr. Jeff Weinberg On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Yusang Park and Ms. Helen Yoon were absent.

10. **OLD BUSINESS** – None

11. **NEW BUSINESS** – None

12. At approximately 9:15 PM, Mrs. Holly Morell, offered, seconded by Mrs. Candace Romba, to adjourn the Public Work Session. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

  
 DAVID L. RINDERKNECHT  
 INTERIM BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY

DLR/mp  
 Att. 11-14-14