

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

**MINUTES –PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING**

Monday, November 17, 2014

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 6:07 PM by Mr. Yusang Park, President of the Fort Lee Board of Education.
2. Mrs. Esther Han Silver 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 (Arrived 6:15PM), Mr. David Sarnoff, Mr. Joseph Surace, Mr. Jeff Weinberg, Ms. Helen Yoon (Arrived 6:20PM) and Mr. Yusang Park

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

**ABSENT:** Mrs. Candace Romba, Ms. Arielle Vertsman and Mr. Michael Zhadanovsky

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

- ◆ Mr. Joseph Surace raised the question concerning the legal right of the Board to appoint once the 65 days have passed.
- ◆ Mr. Dennis McKeever stated that the Executive County Superintendent granted the Board the right to make the appointment at this time. The matter was further discussed and Mr. McKeever read the letter of November 7, 2014 from the Executive County Superintendent.
- ◆ At this time the candidates for the vacant Board seat came forward and reviewed their credentials as well as stating their reason for seeking a seat on the Board. The candidates were: Ronne Bassman-Agins, Kathleen Caulfield, Dr. Jerry Cicchelli, James Dardouni, Catherine Konradt and Michael Osso.

At approximately 6:35 PM, Mrs. Holly Morell, offered, seconded by Mr. David Sarnoff, to open the meeting to the public. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

**6. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – NONE**

Mr. David Sarnoff, offered, seconded by Ms. Helen Yoon, to close the meeting to the public. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

**7. RESOLUTION**

**BOARD**

**#1B**

RESOLUTION NO. 26691

OFFERED BY Mrs. Esther Han Silver

SECONDED BY Mrs. Holly Morell

**APPROVE PRIVATE EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**WHEREAS**, the Open Public Meetings Act and the Fort Lee Board of Education reserve the right within the constraints of State Law to sit in Private Session; and

**WHEREAS**, there now exists a need for this Board of Education to meet in Private Session for the following purposes:

- a. FLEA Negotiations-Fact Finding
- b. Discuss Board Candidates for vacant Board position
- c. HIB Hearing
- d. Board Attorney – Status Report on Litigation

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education conduct a Private Executive Session immediately to discuss exempt matters listed above and any such matters that may come before the Board; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the public will be informed regarding the topics discussed in Private as follow:

- a. At conclusion of FLEA negotiations
- b. Upon conclusion of litigation issues
- c. Appointment of Board Member to vacant position
- d. HIB Hearing/When and if legally allowed.

On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

At approximately 6:40 PM, at this time the Board convened the Private meeting. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

At approximately 7:55 PM, the Board resumed the Public meeting.

8. At approximately 7:56 PM, Mr. Jeff Weinberg, offered, seconded by Mrs. Esther Han Silver, 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. 12-11-14