

CEDAR GROVE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Cedar Grove, New Jersey
MINUTES

April 20, 2021

Cedar Grove High School Auditorium

Public Session 6:30 PM

Mr. Schoner, Board Vice President, called the Regular Meeting of the Cedar Grove Board of Education to order at 6:30 pm

Roll Call:

- ✓ Mrs. DiChiara
- ✓ Mrs. Mega
- ✓ Mr. Splendoria
- ✓ Mr. Schoner
- ✓ Mrs. Dye (arrived at 6:48)

Mr. Anthony Grosso, Superintendent of Schools and Mr. Michael DeVita, Board Secretary were also present.

The following motion was made by Mrs. DiChiara and seconded by Mr. Splendoria and unanimously carried.

E1. Motion to **adjourn to executive session to discuss the following items:**

- Legal matter relative to a **pending litigation against the Board**. Action is not expected to follow the discussion in the Executive Session. Public release of the discussion will occur upon completion of the matter.
- Personnel matter relative to **candidates for employment**. Action may follow the discussion in the Executive Session. Public release of the discussion will occur upon completion of any contracts.

The Board returned to Open Session at 7:36 pm and Mrs. Dye led the Pledge of Allegiance and read the following announcement:

Announcement: The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of, and to attend the meeting of, public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this act, the Cedar Grove Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be advertised, by having the date, time, and place thereof posted on bulletin boards in the District, published and/or transmitted to the *Verona-Cedar Grove Times* and *Star Ledger* newspapers, TAPinto online news, filed with the Township Clerk, and posted on the District's web site.

Roll Call:

- ✓ Mrs. DiChiara
- ✓ Mrs. Mega
- ✓ Mr. Splendoria
- ✓ Mr. Schoner
- ✓ Mrs. Dye

Mr. Anthony Grosso, Superintendent of Schools and Mr. Michael DeVita, Board Secretary were also present.

The meeting was opened to the public for comment on items on the agenda. No one from the public wished to be heard.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs DiChiara attended the autism awareness event and reported how good the speaker was.

Mr. Splendoria attended the South End FSA meeting and reported they will have yoga sessions, at the clothing drive they collected 4,800 lbs of clothes.

Mrs. Mega read a statement thanking all volunteers for National Volunteer Week.

Board Presentation:

Andrew Vander Horn presented a new course proposal for the high school called "The Holocaust, Genocide, and Modern Humanity."

Lynn DiMatteo introduced teachers who received a research grant through Montclair State University for \$500 on Social Justice and Equality.

Ross Haber presented the results of a demographic study her performed for the district.

Student Representative reported that rehearsals are ongoing for "Legally Blonde", there is a fundraiser for the American Heart Association, Earth Day cleanup, they are writing Spring themed cards for hospitals and having events for students.

Superintendent Update

Mr. Grosso gave a district COVID update and informed that as of 4/26/21 there will be no more cohorts for North End and South End, spoke about autism awareness month, music education in schools month, a high school student received an art scholarship and her work will be sent to the governor and the summer step up program.

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR and BOARD SECRETARY

A motion was made by Mr. Splendoria and seconded by Mrs. Mega and unanimously carried to approve items B1 through B5.

B1. Motion to **approve the Public and Executive minutes** of March 16, 2021.

B2. Motion to **approve the budgetary transfers** for the months of March 2021.

B3. Motion to **approve the Treasurer's Report** for the month of March 2021.

B4. Motion to **approve the Board Secretary Report** for the month of March 2021.

B5. Motion to **approve the Board Secretary's certification to the Cedar Grove Board of Education, pursuant to NJAC 6A:23-2.11(c)3, that no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures which, in total, exceed the line item appropriation in violation of NJAC**

6A:23-2.11(a); and further pursuant to NJAC 6A:23-2.11(c)4, no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of NJAC 6A:23-2.11(b).

The following motion was made by Mrs. Mega and seconded by Mrs. DiChiara and unanimously carried.

B6. Motion to pay the following List of Bills totaling: \$4,138,250.69 for the period 3/17/2021 - 4/20/2021

A motion was made by Mrs. DiChiara and seconded by Mr. Schoner and unanimously carried to approve items B7 through B13.

B7. Motion to approve the generous donation by Mark D. Softy on March 29, 2020. The two items that were donated included a Precor Elliptical Fitness Cross Trainer and an Inspire M3Universal Fitness Machine for the High School Athletic department.

B8. Motion to approve an agreement with Delta Dental of New Jersey, Inc. to provide dental insurance coverage for Cedar Grove Board of Education employees, effective July 1, 2021 through December 31, 2023 at the following monthly premium rates:

| | <u>Group 01</u> | <u>Group 02</u> |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Employee | \$ 44.28 | \$ 57.14 |
| Employee & Spouse | \$ 81.92 | \$105.72 |
| Employee & Child(ren) | \$ 86.36 | \$111.43 |
| Family | \$135.06 | \$174.29 |

B9. Motion that the Cedar Grove Board of Education approves the award of a contract to Benecard to provide prescription drug insurance benefits to district employees at the monthly premium rates shown below for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

| | <u>\$5/\$15/\$30</u> | <u>\$10/\$20/\$35</u> | <u>NJEHP</u> |
|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Single | \$229.99 | \$222.16 | \$211.15 |
| Two Adults | \$603.68 | \$583.15 | \$555.84 |
| Family | \$633.88 | \$612.34 | \$583.31 |
| Parent & Child(ren) | \$339.84 | \$328.30 | \$308.89 |

B10. Motion to approve the annual membership in the NJSIAA at a cost of \$2,500, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-3, et seq. The Board also agrees to be governed by the Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules and Regulations of the NJSIAA, including all rules governing student-athlete eligibility.

B11. Motion to retroactively approve the location agreement with Colin Keyes (MSU Student), and the Cedar Grove Board of Education for a thesis film shoot at Cedar Grove High School on March 26, 2021, March 28, 2021 and April 9, 2021 for a fee of \$1,392, including custodial overtime. The agreement is on file in the Board office.

B12. Motion to **approve the generous donation from the North End FSA in the amount of \$10,000** to be used towards the outdoor beautification project.

B13. Motion to **approve the generous donation from the Cedar Grove High School APT in the amount of \$2,000** to be used towards prom for the Class of 2021.

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

A motion was made by Mr. Schoner and seconded by Mr. Splendoria and unanimously carried to approve items S1 through S17.

S1. Motion to **rescind and retroactively revise the resignation date for Thomas Grosvenor, HS Teacher**, effective last day Monday, April 19, 2021.

S2. Motion to **accept the resignation of Paige Gibson, paraprofessional** at Memorial Middle School, effective last day of employment April 1, 2021.

S3. Motion to **approve Patrick Marciano, Assistant Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds**, at \$58,000 prorated, starting April 19, 2021 to June 30, 2021.

S4. Motion to **appoint the following staff in accordance with the State Emergent Hiring Start Date procedures:**

- **Stephen Torlucci**, Buildings & Grounds Custodian at Step 6, \$43,540 prorated, retroactively starting April 19, 2020 through June 30, 2021.
- **James Siclari**, Buildings & Grounds Custodian at Step 6, \$43,540 prorated, retroactively starting April 19, 2020 through June 30, 2021

S5. Motion to **approve reassigning Valentino Salerno, retroactively on April 19, 2021, from Memorial Middle School to the High School**, filling the vacant position of night custodian per Article XII(4) of the custodial agreement.

S6. Motion to **approve reassigning Concepcion Amaya, retroactively on April 19, 2021, from buildings and grounds custodian, to night custodian at the High School**, per Article XII(4) of the custodial agreement.

S7. Motion to **amend (resolution S13 on March 16, 2021 agenda) re-employ and set salary for non tenured professional staff member, Jennifer Costantini, MMS at \$57,929 for the 2020-2021 school year.**

S8. Motion to **retroactively approve the following as volunteer coaches for the Spring**

2021: Michael Manfra

S9. Motion to **approve Lori Robinson for supplemental instruction** for student # 7956053591 in the amount of no more than 3 hours per week at the curriculum rate of \$35 per hour.

S10. Motion to **approve Kelly Kelly, MMS School Drama Production** at a stipend of \$2,815 for the 2020-2021 school year.

S11. Motion to **approve the following staff members for the CGHS Spring Musical 2020-21 school year:**

- * **Jennifer Foose, Musical Producer** at a stipend of \$2,548
 - * **David Candia, Musical Assistant Producer** at a stipend of \$2,011
- * **Michael Gencarelli, Musical Set Designer** at a stipend of \$1,445
 - * **Nick Franciosa, Musical Tech Designer** at a stipend of \$562
 - * **Melissa Hill, Musical Artistic Designer** at a stipend of \$1,445

S12. Motion to **approve an adjustment to the 2020-2021 District Calendar to reflect the use of (2) available emergency closing days on Tuesday, June 1, 2021 and Wednesday, June 23, 2021.** As a result, all Cedar Grove public schools and offices will be closed on these dates.

S13. Motion to **approve the following substitute teachers** for the 2020-2021 school year at a rate of \$90/diem.

Michele Feeley Loren Vitali

S14. Motion to **authorize attendance** at the following event/s:

| Program | Date | Employee(s) | Board Member(s) | Cost |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|-----------------|----------|
| Teach your heart out! | 7-8 & 9-21 | C. Sudol | 0 | \$32.50 |
| State Boiler Exam | 3/25/21(retroactively) | A.Longo | 0 | \$0 |
| Breathe For Change | Varies online 8 weeks | D. DeTrizio | 0 | \$247.50 |
| LCADC | April 29 & 30/2021 | D. LaFoon | 0 | \$62.50 |
| SEL Symposium | 5/5/21 (Virtual) | E. Slota | 0 | \$12.50 |

S15. Motion to **approve the following Job Descriptions** for the 2020-2021 school year.

District Supervisor of Mental Health/Anti- Bullying Coordinator

District Supervisor of Elementary Education (Pre-K-Grade 5)

District Supervisor of Secondary Education (Grades 6-12)

S16. Motion to **accept the resignation of Tamia Sharif, MMS paraprofessional** as of May 4, 2021 (being the last day of work).

S17. Motion to **approve reassigning Judith Kerigan, on April 21, 2021,** from South End

School to Memorial Middle School, filling the vacant position of one to one aide.

The following motion was made by Mr. Splendoria and seconded by Mrs. Mega and unanimously carried.

S18. Motion to approve new course, **Andrew Vander Horn to write curriculum: the Holocaust, Genocide, and Modern Humanity**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bill Scanlon spoke about the code of ethics.

Kerry Peterson spoke about the high school graduation.

Joe Tencza spoke about the high school graduation.

Jennifer Catalano spoke about the high school graduation.

Agnes Norman spoke about getting students back to school.

Edith Fusco spoke about getting students back to school.

Patricia Montana spoke about getting students back to school and Friday learning in the afternoon.

Chris Cannella spoke about the new Holocaust class.

Announcement of future meetings:

May 4, 2021 CGHS Auditorium. 6:30 pm Executive Session; 7:30 pm Regular Meeting

May 19, 2021 CGHS Auditorium. 6:30 pm Executive Session; 7:30 pm Regular Meeting

Motion by Mrs. DiChiara and seconded by Mr. Schoner and unanimously carried to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Cedar Grove Board of Education at 11:05 pm.

Roll Call:

- ✓ Mrs. DiChiara
- ✓ Mrs. Mega
- ✓ Mr. Splendoria
- ✓ Mr. Schoner
- ✓ Mrs. Dye

Mr. Anthony Grosso, Superintendent of Schools and Mr. Michael DeVita, Business Administrator were also present.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael DeVita
Board Secretary