

CEDAR GROVE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Cedar Grove, New Jersey
MINUTES

August 18, 2020

CGHS Cafeteria (Board) & Virtual Public Board Meeting (via GoToMeeting)
Public Session 6:30 PM

Mrs. Dye, Board 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

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

The following motion was made by Mrs. Mega 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 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 Executive Session. Public release of the discussion will occur upon completion of any contracts.

The Board returned to Open Session at 7:33 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

Mr. Schoner spoke about Cedar Grove Waves. This will be the sixth year doing it and they will be doing a hybrid process and presentation to honor the lives lost on 9/11.

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 August 5, 2020
- B2. Motion to **approve the budgetary transfers** for the months of July 2020
- B3. Motion to **approve the Treasurer's Report** for the month of June 2020
- B4. Motion to **approve the Board Secretary Report** for the month of June 2020
- 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: August 18, 2020 \$4,041,088.82**

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 Horizon Healthcare Staffing as Sub Nurse Agency** for all schools during the 2020-2021 school year.

- B8. Motion to **approve the following parent transportation contract** for the 2020-2021 school year (September 2020 – June 2021): ID No. 4652366885, \$9.10 per diem, 183 day maximum).
- B9. Motion to **approve the following parent transportation contract** for ESY 2020 school year (July – August 2020): ID 5296256697, \$20.00 per diem, 15 day maximum).
- B10. Motion to **approve a fee of \$25 per year per child to parents for the use of 24-hour Chromebook accessibility for students in grades K-12. Funds will be used towards warranty expense and repairs to damaged Chromebooks.**
- B11. Motion to **approve the renewal of a transportation jointure (PVCG) with Passaic Valley Board of Education** as the Host District and Cedar Grove Board of Education as the Joiner District for the transportation of two Cedar Grove students to Passaic Valley High School.
- B12. Motion to **approve a modification to the 2020/2021 budget in the amount of \$123,700** for budgetary account 11-000-291-270 in order to account for the reduction in state aid as notified by the New Jersey Department of Education as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The obligations appropriated to this line will be met by the anticipated savings from reduced premiums in the School Employees Health Benefit Plan.
- B13. Motion to **approve the following resolution for the reopening of schools:**

WHEREAS, the plan to reopen schools for the 2020-2021 school year includes, to the extent possible and within the confines as dictated by the District's buildings and facilities, the health, safety, and "Leadership and Planning" measures identified as "Anticipated Minimum Standards" (minimum standards) in the Department of Education's The Road Back, Restart and Recovery Plan for Education; and

WHEREAS, the District's plan, to the extent possible will implement those minimum standards as outlined in the District's reopening plan; and

WHEREAS, the District's plan, to the extent possible, will adhere to the directives of the Governor and the Department of Education of the State of New Jersey regarding the reopening of schools for 2020-2021.

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board has considered the above and, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the submission of the District's plan for reopening schools for the 2020-2021 school year to the Department of Education.

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 S20.

- S1. Motion to **appoint the following staff in accordance with the State Emergent Hiring Start Date procedures:**
- **Brian Meisner**, High School Business Teacher at BA, Step 1, \$51,224 from September 3, 2020 through June 30, 2021.
 - **Emily Bulbulia**, Memorial Middle School, maternity leave replacement, non-tenurable, Math Teacher at BA, Step 1, \$51,224 prorated from Sept 3, 2020 through March 12, 2021 being last work day.
- S2. Motion to **approve Jesse Lab, MMS, as Social Studies teacher, BA+30, Step 1, \$53,224, effective September 3, 2020 to June 30, 2021.**
- S3. Motion to **approve Joanne Marriott, full time position of Special Education teacher at the High School at BA, Step 3, \$52,224 effective September 3, 2020 to June 30, 2021.**
- S4. Motion to **approve Jennifer Costantini, MMS as maternity leave replacement, non-tenurable, Special Education teacher, at MA Step 4 \$57,224 pro-rated on or before September 3 through February 25, 2021 being last work day.**
- S5. Motion to **accept the resignation of Rick Mangili, submitted on August 18, 2020, HS, Principal.** 60 days' notice renders a last day of October 16, 2020. Release date can be sooner once a replacement Principal has been board approved.
- S6. Motion to **accept the resignation of Sidra D'Amato, SE Para, effective August 29, 2020.**
- S7. Motion to **approve Christa Matera, MMS as maternity leave replacement, non-tenurable, Math Teacher at BA, Step 1, and \$51,224 prorated from September 3 through November 23, 2020 being last work day.**
- S8. Motion to **rescind resignation date of October 1, 2020 and approve September 27, 2020, for Patricia Caruso, NE 2nd Grade Teacher, for purposes of retirement.**
- S9. Motion to **revise June 23, 2020 (S6.) agenda to reflect Lalia Wilder, at South End School as Part Time Secretary, 15 hours per week, at \$15.85 hourly, effective September 3, 2020 through June 23, 2021.**
- S10. Motion to **approve Alexa Rubino, high school guidance counselor a maximum # of 2 days, at their per diem rate of pay for new students to tour high school from August 18 – 31, 2020.**

S11. Motion to **approve the following vice principals** (maximum of 5 days) to assist with the re-opening of the high school and middle school from August 18 – 31 2020: Jody Inglis and Derrick Chell.

S12. Motion to **approve the "extra class" stipend for the 2020-21 school year** at a rate of \$6,300 for the following teachers:
 *David Candia Leadership I cycle class *Liz Cheyne for our Leadership II cycle

S13. **Motion to approve the following Substitute Teachers for the 2020-21 school year** at the per diem rate of **\$90.00**:

Sharon Krohn	Donna Zambrano	Deanne DeCorte
Tom DeBernardo	LeaMarie Pronesti	Ryan Fearon
Diane Sadowski	Nora DiBona	Nada Shater
Phyllis Dhumez	Jennifer Constantini	Christa Matera
Vicki Zahn	Nicole DeJoseph	Lauren Okker
Karen Binetti		
Rebecca Aburomi	Nina Lazar	Christopher Hildebrand
Elizabeth Paizis	Troy Spinetta	

S14. Motion to **approve the following Substitute Nurses for the 2020-2021** school year at the per diem rate of **\$175.00**: Tiffany Willis Caputo Sandra Haine

S15. Motion to **approve the following School Aides for the 2020-2021** school year at **\$4,920.00 (full time); substitute rate at \$12.00 per hour**:
 North End School: Joanne Jandoli Maureen Hoehe Maria Adubato
 South End School: Carmella DeCaito Rosemary Ramundo
 Subs: Victoria Zahn Gail Stefanelli

S16. Motion to **approve the following** leaves of absence:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Reason</i>	<i>Position / Location</i>	<i>Number of Employee Sick Days used for Leave</i>	<i>FMLA Start Date</i>	<i>NJ(FLA) Start Date</i>	<i>Return Date</i>	<i>Modifications / Updates</i>
J. Lawshe	Mat'y	Math/MMS	3/25-6/16/20 (40)	n/a	9/3-11/23/2020 (58)	11/24/20	NJFLA Start/end
O. Miller	Mat'y	English/HS	11/16-1/6/21 (29) Personal Days 1/7 -8/21	9/3-11/13/20 (52)	1/11-4/1/2021 (59)	4/12/21	FMLA start of Mat'y Leave

S17. Motion to **approve the electronic submission of the Statement of Assurance of the District Mentoring Plan** via NJDOE Homeroom for the 2020-2021 school year.

S18. Motion to **approve the following students for Classroom Observation:**

<i>Student</i>	<i>College/Univ. Student Attends</i>	<i>School Observing in Grade/Subject</i>	<i>Date(s)/Hours of Observation</i>
Brittany Maguire	WPU	SE Elementary Gr 2	Student Teaching 2020-2021 school year

S19. Motion to **rescind S9 on June 16, 2020 agenda and approve Kayla Amato** as North End Grade 2 teacher, MA Step 1 \$55,224 from September 3, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

S20. Motion to **approve the "extra class" stipend for the 2020-21 school year** at a rate of \$6,300 for the following teachers: Irina Shutovsky and Vincent Mufferi.

Mrs. Dye thanked Rick Mangili for his tenure in the district.

Mr. DeVita summarized the policies that are on for a first reading.

A motion was made by Mr. Splendoria and seconded by Mrs. Mega and unanimously carried to approve items S21 through S22.

S21. Motion to **approve the First Reading of the following Policy:**

P1648.02 Remote Learning Options for Families (M) (New)

S22. Motion to **approve the Second Reading of the following Policy Updates/Revisions:**

P 1648 Restart and Recovery Plan (M) (New)

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

S23. Motion to **approve the following contracts for special education students**, as recommended by the Director of Special Services, for the 2020-2021 school year:

Riverview School

Student: 1830101732

ESY 2020 \$2,500

Dr. Andre Francois

Bilingual Child Study Team

Bilingual evaluations at a rate of \$900 each

Chapel Hill Academy

Student 8504905852

Tuition for the 2020-2021 school year \$63,360.00

Personal Aide: 28,800.00
Total: 92,160.00

North Jersey Elks Developmental Disabilities Agency

Student: 4140560747
Tuition for the 2020-2021 school year
\$64,229.52

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chris Cannella commented about the reopening of schools.

Steve Bebe commented about the reopening of schools.

Eda Ferrante commented about the reopening of schools.

Daniele Jacobs asked about air filters, returning to school and nurses.

Mr. Grosso and Mrs. Dye commented about air filters and returning to school.

Chris Cannella, Robyn Cali, Leslie Andres, Maria Rodriguez, Jennifer Correnti, Myra Medina, Afla Lamtee, Jill Speagle and Jill Babitz all commented about the reopening and return to schools.

Announcement of future meetings:

Sept. 15, 2020 North End Ctr (?) 6:30 pm Executive Session; 7:30 pm Regular Mtg

Sept. 29, 2020 North End Media Ctr. (?) 6:30 pm Executive Session; 7:30 pm Regular Mtg

Motion by Mrs. DiChiara and second by Mr. Splendoria and unanimously carried to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Cedar Grove Board of Education at 9:03 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