

**CEDAR GROVE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Cedar Grove, New Jersey**  
**MINUTES**

**October 26, 2020**

**Cedar Grove High School Auditorium**

**Public Session 6:31 PM**

Mrs. Dye, Board President, called the Regular Meeting of the Cedar Grove Board of Education to order at 6:31 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.
- Student matter relative to **HIB**. Action is not expected to follow the discussion in executive session. Due to the confidentiality of student matters, public release of this discussion will probably never occur.

The Board returned to Open Session at 7:44 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**

The High School Student Representative said how happy she was to get back to school. Spoke about the “Talent under the Stars”, the pep rally went well, had a virtual walk and they are having auditions for the CGHS winter show.

Mrs. Dye spoke about the Breast Cancer Walk at Panther Park.

### **BOARD PRESENTATIONS**

Nick DeCorte and Jeremy Lougamenno did a presentation of Biomimicry and the Solutions of Real World Problems for sixth grade students at MMS.

Student Olivia Healey was introduced as the UNICO Columbus Essay Contest winner.

### **SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE**

Mr. Grosso gave a COVID update in the district and spoke about some new CDC guideline changes that were released. He thanked the Montclair Health Department for their assistance with some positive cases and reminded everyone that on Election Day, schools will be all virtual learning.

### **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 B4.

- B1. Motion to **approve the Public and Executive minutes** of October 13, 2020.
- B2. Motion to **approve the Treasurer’s Report** for the month of September 2020
- B3. Motion to **approve the Board Secretary Report** for the month of September 2020
- B4. 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 approved.

B5. Motion to **pay the following List of Bills: \$3,986,941.58 9/30/2020-10/26/2020**

A motion was made by Mrs. DiChiara and seconded by Mr. Schoner and unanimously carried to approve items B6 through B11.

B6. Motion to approve **Non Public Nursing services for the 2020/2021 school year.**

**WHEREAS**, P.L. 1991, Chapter 226, requires that each Board of Education of a district in which a nonpublic school is located shall provide certain nursing services to those students who are enrolled full time in the nonpublic school; and

**WHEREAS**, the Union County Educational Services Commission has agreed to provide the required nursing services for local public school districts for the purpose of efficient delivery of services and greater cost effectiveness through cooperation and centralized administration;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Cedar Grove Board of Education enter into an agreement with the Union County Educational Services Commission whereby the Commission will implement the law and administer the nonpublic school nursing services program for those full time students enrolled in the nonpublic school(s) located within the Cedar Grove Board of Education for the 2020-2021 school year, in accordance with applicable law; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** that the Board will remit the entire entitlement to the Commission to be billed monthly starting on October 1, 2020 and ending on July 1, 2021. The Commission will retain six percent (6%), of the entitlement as an administrative fee received by the Cedar Grove Board of Education as State aid, per pupil, pursuant to said enactment

B7. Motion to approve the proposal from **Trifecta Networks for the purchase of Cisco switches** at a cost of \$19,735.

B8. Motion to **retroactively approve the location agreement with Five to Sixty, LLC**, and the Cedar Grove Board of Education for a commercial film shoot at Cedar Grove High School on October 22, 2020 and October 23, 2020 for a fee of \$4,000. The agreement is on file in the Board office.

B9. Motion to **approve the agreement with JAG-ONE Athletic Training Services** to provide substitute certified athletic trainers on a per diem basis for coverage of athletic events at an hourly rate of \$55.

B10. Motion to **retroactively approve the location agreement with Greenpoint Pictures**, and the Cedar Grove Board of Education for a film shoot at Cedar Grove High School on October 21, 2020 for a fee of \$4,000. The agreement is on file in the Board office.

**B11. Motion to approve the following for submission of the Comprehensive Maintenance Plan for the 2020-21 school year:**

Whereas, the Department of Education requires New Jersey School Districts to submit three-year maintenance plans documenting “required” maintenance activities for each of its public school facilities; and

Whereas, the required maintenance activities as listed in the attached document for the various school facilities of the Cedar Grove School District are consistent with these requirements; and

Whereas, all past and planned activities are reasonable to keep school facilities open and safe for use or in their original condition and to keep their system warranties valid; and

Now therefore be it resolved, that the Cedar Grove School District hereby authorizes the School Business Administrator to submit the Comprehensive Maintenance Plan and the Annual Maintenance Budget Amount Worksheet (M-1) for the Cedar Grove School District in compliance with Department of Education requirements.

**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 S16.

**S1. HIB INVESTIGATION RESOLUTION FOR SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT –  
Second Reading**

A. BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby affirms the Superintendent’s decision in HIB Investigation Involving SID# 3050048056 from 09/18/2020 for reason set forth in the Superintendent’s Report to the Board and directs the Board Secretary/ School Business Administrator to transmit a copy of the Board’s decision to the affected students’ parents forthwith.

a. NON-HIB Conflict

**S2. Motion to appoint the following staff in accordance with the State Emergent Hiring Start Date procedures:**

- **Sharon Mitola, South End School Paraprofessional**, at \$20,021 prorated starting on October 20, 2020 to June 23, 2021.

**S3. Motion to accept the resignation of Sean Sweeney** submitted on October 15, 2020 as a High school math teacher. Sixty days’ notice renders a last day of December 14, 2020. Release date can be sooner once a replacement has been board approved.

**S4. Motion to rescind motions S9 on September 29 and S1 on July 9, 2020 agendas** for Sean Sweeney, as CGHS 9<sup>th</sup> grade advisor and Girls Asst. Fall Volleyball Coach.

- S5. Motion to **rescind motion S9. on September 29, 2020 agenda** for Walter Krehel as CGHS yearbook assistant.
- S6. Motion to **approve Lauren Okker, South End Maternity Leave Replacement Grade 3 Teacher**, non tenurable, BA, Step 1 \$51, 224 prorated from November 3, 2020 through January 29, 2021 being last day of work.
- S7. Motion to **approve the following Middle School morning assistance** at the rate of \$35 per hour for the 2020-2021: **(retroactively starting at 8:00am on October 5, 2020):**  
 Bob Savino      Cassie Imperatore-Dangler      Michael Moussab      Gabrielle Guridys
- S8. Motion to **approve Tuition Reimbursement** for John Bannon in the amount of \$177, for course work completed in the Fall of 2020.
- S9. Motion to **approve the following tenured staff member to receive mentoring fee reimbursement** in the amount of \$550. \*Michele Rack
- S10. Motion to **approve the following as substitute teachers** at a rate of \$90/diem, starting for the 2020-21 school year: Kelly Sabia and Debra Gambella
- S11. Motion to **rescind motion S7 on August 18, 2020 and approve Christa Matera, MMS maternity leave replacement**, non-tenurable, Math Teacher at BA, Step 1, and \$51,224 prorated from September 3, 2020 to March 9, 2020 being last day of work.

S12. Motion to **authorize attendance** at the following event/s:

Program	Date	Employee(s)	Board Member(s)	Cost
NJPSAFEA	10/22/2020 (retroactively)	J. Inglis	0	\$0
Vision Board	7/18/2020 (retroactively) virtual	C. Sudol	0	\$129.00
ECEA Workshop	10/21/2020 (retroactively) virtual	T. Infante	0	\$0
LCADC	11/11 & 11/19/2020	D. Lafoon	0	\$75

S13. Motion to **approve the following Stipend positions for the 2020-2021** School year, based upon the 2019-2020 bargaining contract:

WHEREAS, the Cedar Grove School District seeks to appoint stipend positions for the 2020-2021 school year; and

WHEREAS, the Cedar Grove School District will pay the full amount associated with the stipend of a particular co-curricular activity in the event that the co-curricular activity is conducted in full; and

WHEREAS, the Cedar Grove School District will not pay the amount of the stipend or pay a prorated amount of the stipend associated with the co-curricular activity in the

event that all or a portion of the co-curricular activity is not conducted due to a declared state of emergency, declared public health emergency, or a directive by the appropriate health agency or officer to institute a public health-related closure or a directive from the appropriate representative of the New Jersey Department of Education or a directive from the Governor or designee or the New Jersey Legislature or designee or should the Cedar Grove School District adopt a permissible virtual or remote learning platform where the co-curricular activity cannot be performed or that the school year itself might be modified; and

WHEREAS, in the event that a co-curricular activity is either cancelled or reduced or modified, the stipend will not be paid or will be prorated to commensurate with the percentage of the co-curricular activity that is actually conducted.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cedar Grove School District approves the following appointments, contingent on the co-curricular activity running and becoming operational, and the stipend not be paid if the co-curricular activity is cancelled or prorated should the activity not be completed because of a declared state of emergency, declared public health emergency, or a directive by the appropriate health agency or officer to institute a public health-related closure or a directive from the appropriate representative of the New Jersey Department of Education or a directive from the Governor or designee or the New Jersey Legislature or designee:

### **High School Co-Curricular Activities 2020-2021**

The Pride Advisor	Adriana Durso	2631
Key Club Advisor	Alexa Rubino	835
Tech Crew Advisor	Nick Franciosa	1833
Drama Producer	Jen Foose	2548
Musical Producer	Jen Foose	2548
Set Designer Musical	John Scimone	1445
Set Designer Drama	John Scimone	1445
Robotics Club Advisor	Dave Coster	1351
GSA Gay Straight Alliance	Chris Cannella	835
Math Club Advisor	Michele Rack	835
3-D Printing Club Advisor	David Coster	835

### **Memorial Middle School Advisors for the 2020-2021 school year:**

Literary Publication Editor: (2)	L. Cheyne, V. Perazzone	1233
Newspaper Advisor	Escobar/Cheyne Split	2079
Technology Club	J. Luogameno	955
Random Acts of Kindness	L. Caravella	835
Art Club	A Hatzikyriakou	955
E-Sports (2)	D Candia, A. Potts	\$835

S14. Motion to **approve the following staff members for the position of LinkIt! District Liaison**, each receiving a stipend of \$2000 to be paid using Title II ESEA funds, for the 2020-2021 school year:

- Katie Danieli
- Jeremy Luogameno
- Melinda Milano /Victoria Tedesco (split)

S15. Motion to **approve the following South End and North End staff to provide** temperature checks for staff and students starting at 8:00am on September 29, 2020 through June 30, 2021 at a rate of \$35 per hour. Jennifer Coakley

S16. 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>
Ryan Tighe	WPU	SE/Physical Ed	Clinical Practice January – May 6, 2021

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

S17. Motion to **approve the Second Reading of the following Policy:**

- P 1620** Administrative Employment Contracts (M) (Revised)
- P 1648** Restart and Recovery Plan (M) (Revised)
- P 2431** Athletic Competition (M) (Revised)
- R 2431.1** Emergency Procedures for Sports and Other Athletic Activity (M) (Revised)
- P 2464** Gifted and Talented Students (M) (Revised)
- P 5200.1** Student Travel Advisory Procedures during Pandemic (New)
- P & R 5330.05** Seizure Action Plan (M) (New)
- P 6440** Cooperative Purchasing (M) (Revised)
- P & R 6470.01** Electronic Funds Transfer and Claimant Certification (M) (New)
- P 6471.1** School District Travel Advisory Procedures during Pandemic (New)
- P & R 7440** School District Security (M) (Revised)
- P 7450** Property Inventory (M) (Revised)
- P & R 7510** Use of School Facilities (M) (Revised)
- P 8420** Emergency and Crisis Situations (M) (Revised)

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

S18. Motion to **approve the following contracts for special education students**, as recommended by the Director of Special Services, for the 2020-2021 school year:

**Coordinated Treatment Solutions**  
Counseling for the 2020-2021 school year

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

Announcement of future meetings:

November 17, 2020 Cedar Grove HS Auditorium, 6:30 pm Exec Session; 7:30 pm Regular Mtg  
December 15, 2020 Cedar Grove HS Auditorium, 6:30 pm Exec Session; 7:30 pm Regular Mtg

Motion by Mrs. DiChiara and second by Mr. Schoner and unanimously carried to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Cedar Grove Board of Education at 8:27 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