

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

**September 20, 2022**

**Cedar Grove High School Auditorium**

**Public Session**

**6:30 PM**

Mrs. Daura, Board President, called the Regular Meeting of the Cedar Grove Board of Education to order at 6:30 pm

Roll Call:

- ✓ Mr. Marzullo
- ✓ Mr. Palek
- ✓ Mr. Schoner
- ✓ Mrs. Mega
- ✓ Mrs. Daura

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

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

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

- 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.
- Personnel matter relative to employee incident. Action is expected to follow the discussion in Executive Session. Due to the confidentiality of personnel matters, public release of this discussion will probably never occur.
- Attorney client issues. Action may follow the discussion in the Executive Session. Public release of the discussion may occur upon completion of the matter.

The Board returned to Open Session at 7:36 pm and Mrs. Daura 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:

- ✓ Mr. Marzullo
- ✓ Mr. Palek

- ✓ Mr. Schoner
- ✓ Mrs. Mega
- ✓ Mrs. Daura

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

### **PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

David Grande asked questions about resolutions B14 and S14 and Mr. Grosso and Mr. DeVita responded.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Student Ian Wilson, the All School Council President, updated the board on what has been happening in the high school. Fall sports has begun, testing has been happening, looking to bring back school spirit including homecoming, 5K, lip sync, deck the halls and the college fair.

### **BOARD PRESENTATION:**

Mrs. Janine Barboza and Mr. Bart Pierson did a presentation on the 2022 NJSLA Data Report

Mr. Grosso did a presentation on the need for a referendum, he discussed the next steps including a town hall meeting on 9/27/22 and an ad hoc committee being formed. The Board discussed.

### **SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE**

Mr. Grosso thanked staff for a great opening and also Tracy Severns who spoke on opening day. He reported on the media specialist position, security, UNICO essay contest questions and the 9/11 ceremony. He also reported on the graduation results:

New Jersey regulations (N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.2(f)) require districts to report graduation results annually to their district boards of education or charter school boards of trustees at a public meeting no later than September 30.

Districts are required to report:

1. The total number of students graduating in the prior school year: 132
2. The number of graduates who met the graduation assessment requirements by:
  - a. Passing a substitute competency test: 103
  - b. The portfolio appeals process: 0
  - c. Meeting alternate requirements specified in their IEP: 29
3. The number of 12<sup>th</sup> grade students who were denied graduation and how many of those students were denied solely due to failure to meet the graduation assessment requirements: 2 students did not meet graduation requirements but was not based on graduation assessments.

### **FROM THE OFFICE OF THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR and BOARD SECRETARY**

A motion was made by Mr. Marzullo and seconded by Mr. Schoner and unanimously carried to approve items B1 through B5.

- B1. Motion to **approve the Public and Executive minutes** of August 23, 2022 and the Public minutes of August 30, 2022
- B2. Motion to **approve the budgetary transfers** for the month of August 2022.
- B3. Motion to **approve the Treasurer's Report** for the month of July 2022
- B4. Motion to **approve the Board Secretary Report** for the month of July 2022
- 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 Mr. Palek and unanimously carried.

- B6. Motion to **pay the List of Bills totaling \$1,591,067.06 for the time period of August 24, 2022 – September 20, 2022**

A motion was made by Mr. Marzullo and seconded by Mr. Schoner and unanimously carried to approve items B7 through B16.

- B7. Motion to **retroactively approve the subscription busing contract** with the parents of student no.2174738549 and 2896642798 in the amount of \$1,000.00 (each) for the 2022-2023 school year.
- B8. Motion to **accept the generous donation from the Cedar Grove High School APT** in the amount of \$6,000 to be used for Cedar Grove High School.
- B9. Motion to **retroactively approve the subscription busing contract** with the parents of student no. 4356295408, 4621557711 and 4582678290 in the amount of \$1,000.00 (each) for the 2022-2023 school year.
- B10. Motion to **retroactively approve the subscription busing contract with the parents of student no. 4356295408, 4621557711 and 4582678290** in the amount of \$1,000.00 (each) for the 2022-2023 school year.
- B11. Motion to **retroactively approve the subscription busing contract with the parents of student no. 9023271487** in the amount of \$1,000.00 (each) for the 2022-2023 school year.
- B12. Motion to **approve the proposal from Stonegate Associates, LLC.** for security

consulting services to conduct a security vulnerability assessment for the district in the amount of \$8,800.

B13. Motion to **approve the proposals from Corby Associates, Inc.** to provide a folding partition removal and new gym curtain at North End School and South End School at a total cost of \$15,805 each. Proposal is through the Bergen Bid #21-24; COOP #11-BECCP. Funds for these services are provided through the American Rescue Plan act of 2021 - Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief Fund (ARP-ESSER).

B14. Motion to **approve the location agreement with Roaring Stonk Productions** and the Cedar Grove Board of Education for a catering/holding area at LRP for a movie that is being filmed in Cedar Grove Township on October 3-7, 2022 and October 11, 2022 at a cost of \$9,000, including custodial overtime. The agreement is on file in the Board office.

B15. Motion to **approve the submission of the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA)** and to certify that the Cedar Grove School District has technology protection measures and an internet safety policy in place and are in compliance with the requirements of the Federal Communications Commission for the purpose of receiving E-rate grant funds.

B16. Motion to **approve Ian Wilson, high school student representative** for the 2022-23 school year.

#### **FROM THE OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

A motion was made by Mr. Palek and seconded by Mr. Marzullo to approve items S1 through S26.

*All candidates listed on the agenda in anticipation of Cedar Grove Board approval for employment, will all be contingent upon the receipt of pre-employment satisfactory medical testing, and a cleared proof of criminal history.*

S1. Motion to **retroactively appoint the following staff in accordance with the State Emergent Hiring Start Date procedures:**

- **Jennifer Eitel, Speech Therapist** at Memorial Middle School, MA Step 1 \$57,184 from September 6, 2022 - June 30, 2023.
- **Noreen Brennan, as Leave Replacement Physical Education teacher** at the high school non tenurable position at BA, Step 1, salary of \$53,184 prorated from September 6, 2022 to March 1, 2023. This position is backfilling Michael Valenzano, High School Acting Vice Principal.
- **Nicholas Spiniello, Maternity Leave Replacement Physical Education teacher** at the high school non-tenurable position at BA Step 1, salary of \$53,184 prorated from September 6, 2022 to February 4, 2023. This position is backfilling J. Jones, who is on maternity leave.
- **Lantana Jarrar, NE Paraprofessional**, Step 1, \$21,257 from September 8, 2022 to June 22, 2023.

- Motion to **rescind employment (agenda 8/23/22, S10 C.O.) and retroactively approve Kimberly Materna, Maternity Leave Replacement teacher** at the North End School non tenurable position at BA Step 1, salary of \$53,184 from September 6, 2022 to June 30, 2023. This position is backfilling D. McLaughlin who is on maternity/general leave.
- **Carla Murphy, HS Paraprofessional**, Step 1 \$21,257 prorated from September 19, 2022 to June 22, 2023.
- **Jean Leopold, District Bus Driver**, part time at \$25 per hour, at a guarantee of 25 hours per week and minimum annual salary of \$25,000, beginning September 12, 2022 through June 30, 2023.
- **Jean Leopold, Substitute Custodian**, at \$15.50 per hour beginning September 21, 2022 through June 30, 2023.
- **Leslie Cornejo, SE Paraprofessional**, Step 1, \$21,257 from September 6, 2022 to June 22, 2023.
- **Bonner Doemling, SE Paraprofessional**, Step 1, \$21,257 from September 27, 2022 to June 22, 2023.

S2. Motion to **rescind resolution (agenda 8/23/22 S.7 C.V.) and retroactively approve Graceann Butler, Special Education Teacher**, non tenurable maternity leave position, BA, step 1, \$53,184 prorated from September 6, 2022 through November 9, 2023. This position is replacing K. Pucilowski who is currently on maternity leave.

S3. Motion to **amend (agenda 8/23/22, S10) and retroactively accept the resignation of Kimberly Ciprian**, Speech Therapist as of August 31, 2022. Jennifer Eitel, has been secured as replacement for this position.

S4. Motion to **approve the extension of Patryk Zielonka, HS Social Studies Teacher**, non tenurable maternity leave position, MA, Step 1, \$57,184 from October 3, 2022 to February 15, 2023. This position replaces the general leave extension of Schomaker until her anticipated return of February 16, 2023.

S5. Motion to **retroactively accept the resignation of Karen Moran**, Paraprofessional at South End School as of August 23, 2022.

S6. Motion to **retroactively accept the resignation of Amanda Weil**, paraprofessional at South End School as of September 27, 2022 for personal reasons.

S7. Motion to **approve Angel Perez, district webmaster** stipend at \$5,000, 12 month stipend paid over 24 pay periods for the 2022-2023 school year.

S8. Motion to **retroactively accept the resignation of Patricia Arbucci**, business office part time secretary as of September 15, 2022 for reasons of accepting a full time employment.

S9. Motion to **approve Michelle Rack, HS Math Teacher**, resignation as of September 6, 2022 for personal reasons. Contract language requires 60 days notice,, the last day of employment will be November 4, 2022, unless a suitable replacement can be hired prior

to that date.

S10. Motion to **approve Michael Caposella, head boys varsity lacrosse coach**, at step 1, for \$8,223, for the spring season of the 2022-2023 school year.

S11. Motion to **retroactively approve the building changes** for the following staff members for the 2022-2023 school year:

**Robin Rosa**, paraprofessional from NE to MMS  
**Angela DelViscovo**, paraprofessional from NE to MMS  
**Margaret Pantusa**, paraprofessional from MMS to HS

S12. Motion to **approve the following Co-Curricular Activities for 2022-2023 school year:**

**High School:**

National Honor Society	Mirna Halawani	\$1562
Key Club Advisor	Nicholas Quintero	\$ 835
Tech Crew Advisor	Melissa Hill	\$1833
Irish Club Advisor	Adriana Durso	\$ 835
LinkIt: HS District Liaison:	Dean Straut	\$2000

<b>Rescind</b> Junior Class Advisor:	Jessica Schomaker	\$1774
<b>Approve</b> Junior Class Advisor:	Gretchen Bowie	\$1774
<b>Rescind</b> Yearbook Advisor:	Jenna Bentley	\$4267
<b>Approve</b> Yearbook Advisor:	Rachel Germann	\$4267

Tech Designer Musical	Michael Gencarelli	562
Tech Designer Drama	Michael Gencarelli	562
Drama Assistant Producer	Jackie Leibowitz	2011
Musical Assistant Producer	Jackie Leibowitz	2011
Set Designer Musical	Tom Cutalo	1445
Set Designer Drama	Tom Cutalo	1445

HS Robotics Team	(Fall)	Head	Dave Coster	\$2548
HS Robotics Team	(Fall)	Asst Coach	Dean Straut	\$2011
HS Robotics Team	(Spring)	Head	Dave Coster	\$2548
HS Robotics Team	(Spring)	Asst Coach	Dean Straut	\$2011
HS ESports Team	(Winter)	Head	Mike Tedesco	\$2548
HS ESports Team	(Winter)	Asst Coach	Alex Potts	\$2011

HS ESports Team (Spring) Head Mike Tedesco \$2548  
 HS ESports Team (Spring) Asst Coach Alex Potts \$2011

**Memorial Middle School:**

Technology Club Craig Pickrell \$955

**Elementary Schools: North and South End:**

**Art Specialist Stipend:** Amanda Hatzikyriakou \$2123

<b><u>North End Lunch duty Stipend</u></b>	(\$4,500 each to be paid over 10 months, 20 paychecks)
<b>Rescind</b> Michael DiChiara(split)	<b>Approve</b> Michael DiChiara Full Time
<b>Rescind</b> Katherine Cawley as substitute	<b>Approve</b> Katherine Cawley Full Time
<b>Approve</b> Brittany Reamer	

S13. Motion to **approve lunch coverage** at the curriculum rate for student #9838905549 and student #602010254 at the High School from September 8, 2022 through June 22, 2023 for both of the employees listed below:

- Nancy Leotsakes
- Mary Lawshe (substitute)

S14. Motion to **approve Tuition Reimbursement for the Summer 2021, Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 semesters** for the following employees, to be paid after the second September Board Meeting, but no later than October 15, 2022.

Bolandi, Bobbie		\$2,101.50
Bolandi, Bobbie		\$2,101.50
Bulmer, Jennifer		\$2,101.50
Bulmer, Jennifer		\$2,101.50
Caravella, Lia		\$374.01
Caravella, Lia		\$374.01
Cawley, Katherine		\$2,101.50
Comerford, Tracy		\$348.99
Comerford, Tracy		\$378.99
Conover, Kathleen		\$510.00

Farinhas, Mena		\$510.00
Guridys, Gabrielle		\$1,905.00
Guridys, Gabrielle		\$1,905.00
Hull, Kathleen		\$374.10
Hull, Kathleen		\$374.10
Jessica Schomaker		\$2,101.50
Kay, Stacy		\$374.01
Kay, Stacy		\$274.00
Iegras, Beth		\$510.00
Malagiere, Sandra		\$510.00
Marriott, Joanne		\$374.01
Marriott, Joanne		\$374.01
Matera, Christa		\$1,875.00
Oehm, Joan		\$341.10
Oehm, Joan		\$366.00
Pace, Eric		\$2,101.50
Pace, Eric		\$2,101.50
Palmieri, Diane		\$244.98
Pucilowski, Kristin		\$276.00
Santamaria, Andrea		\$2,055.00
Santamaria, Andrea		\$2,055.00
Servideo, Gayle		\$374.01
Stroh, Maggie		\$2,101.50
Stroh, Maggie		\$2,101.50

S15. Motion to **approve the Clinical Affiliation Agreement between the Ramapo College School of NJ Nursing program** and the Cedar Grove Board of Education for the 2022-23 school year.

S16. Motion to **approve Chapter 27 Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Programs** for the 2022/2023 School Year.

S17. Motion to **approve the following Substitute Teachers for the 2022-2023 school year** at the per diem rate of \$100.00:  
 Leamarie Pronesti                      Ava Mandala  
 Robert Massa

S18. Motion to **approve the following as school volunteers:**  
 Kathryn Hornig NE/SE  
 Victoria Ferraro NE



Tomas Kovas HS Coach

S19. Motion to **authorize attendance** at the following event/s:

Program	Date	Employee(s)	Board Member(s)	Cost
Directors Roundtable	9/27; 10/18; 11/15; 12/19; 1/17; 2/14; 3/14; 4/18; 5/16; 6/13	C. Kinney	0	\$0
Foundations Level 1	9/22/2022	L. Searle	0	\$299/pd by bd
NJ School Boards Conference	10/24/22 - 10/26/22	A. Grosso, M. DeVita	D. Daura, L. Marzullo, D. Schoner	\$4,000
NEA	9/20-23/22 - retroactively	C. Cannella	0	\$0
CPI Training	10/25-27/2022	C Merklinger	0	\$4249 fully funded per CK
MSUNER	9/20/22 (retroactively)	J. Barboza S. Malagieri	0	\$0
Admissions VoTech	9/28/22	E. Pace A.Rubino	0	\$0

S20. 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>Gen Leave</i>	<i>Modifications / Updates</i>
Jessica Schomaker	Maty	Social Studies Tchr/HS	3 /5 to 5/2/22 (38)	n/a	5/3-6/22 9/6-10/3/22 (60)	10/4/22-2/15/23 (86)	New RTW 2/16/23
A.Castillo	Maty	Speech Therapist/NE	9/6-9/19/22 (10 days)	9/20-9/23 (4 days)	9/26-12/16/22 (60 days)	n/a	Earlier RTW 12/19/22
K. Pucilowski	Maty	Resource Tchr/MMS	9/6-10/14/22 (27 days)	9/6-10/14/ (29 days)	10/17-1/13/23 (60)	1/17/23	Rev RTW Date

S21 Motion to **approve the termination of employee # 2750** with the Cedar Grove School District as of September 20, 2022.

S22. Motion to **approve the termination of employee # 2707** with the Cedar Grove School District as of September 20, 2022.

S23. Motion to **approve the job description** of Confidential Payroll and Health Benefit Specialist.

S24. Motion to **approve the revised elementary report card** for the 2022-2023 school year.

S25. Motion to **approve the following employee for planning and grading for 5 additional classes** due to maternity coverage for J. Bentley, retroactively from 9/19/2022 through 11/23/22 at the curriculum rate of \$35/hour:

**\*Rachel Germann**

S26. Motion to **approve the following employee for coverage of 1 additional class** due to maternity coverage for J. Bentley, retroactively from 9/19/2022 through 11/23/22 at the prorated amount of \$6,300 per class.

**\*Rachel Germann**

On roll call, the following vote was taken: Mr. Marzullo, “yes, but not voting on myself on S19”, Mr. Palek, “yes”, Mr. Schoner, “yes, but not voting on myself on S19”, Mrs. Mega, “yes”, Mrs. Daura, “yes, but not voting on myself on S19”.

The motions passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Marzullo and seconded by Mrs. Mega and unanimously carried to approve items S27 through S33.

S27. Motion to **approve the presentation of RTI Strategies** facilitated by MSU Professor, Dr. State at a rate of \$250/hr for MMS and CGHS Teaching Staff on both October 27 and December 8th of 2022.

S28. Motion to **approve the following staff to write curriculum** for the 2022-23 school year, at a rate of \$35 pr/hr, max 20 hrs:

**Katherine Cawley: Kindergarten, Grade 1 and Grade 2 Social Studies**

**Dave Coster: Stem Design**

S29. Motion to **approve the Professional Development plans** for the Cedar Grove School District for the 2022-2023 school year.

S30. Motion to **approve the Mentoring Plan for provisional teachers** for the 2022-2023 school year.

S31. Motion to **approve the Writing Workshop training program for K - 5** with Living Literacy, LLC, for the 2022-2023 school year.

S32. Motion to **approve the Assessment Calendar** for the 2022-2023 school year.

S33. Motion to **retroactively approve Gerry Nibaldi, Night Custodian**, as of September 6, 2022 to split work shift hours as follows: LRP 3pm -6:30pm and MMS 6:30- 11pm, for the 2022-2023 school year.

A motion was made by Mr. Schoner and seconded by Mrs. Mega and unanimously carried to approve items S34 through S36.

S34. Motion to **approve the following contracts for special education students**, as recommended by the Director of Special Services, for the 2022-2023 school year:

**The Calais School**

Student: 8535418738

Tuition for the 22-23 school year

\$73,620.00

**Therapy Source**

ABA services for the 22-23 school year at a rate of \$54.50 per hour

**Developmental Learning Center Warren**

Student 8034958778

Tuition September 19th through October 15th

At a rate of \$525.39 per day

Total: \$9,457.20

S35. Motion to **approve the Special Education Tuition Contract** in the amount of \$64,220 to receive a student from Glen Ridge Board of Education for placement in the LLD Program in Cedar Grove High School.

S36. Motion to **approve the Special Education Tuition Contracts** in the amount of \$35,260 each to receive three students from Verona Board of Education for placement in the 18-21 year old Progressions Program in Cedar Grove High School.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

David Grande spoke about disaggregating data, the media center and security.

Sal Minieri spoke about education basics.

William Reinhardt spoke about an education model.

Announcement of future meetings:

October 18, 2022 North End Media Center 6:30 pm Executive Session; 7:30 pm Regular Mtg

November 16, 2022 South End Media Center 6:30 pm Executive Session; 7:30 pm Regular Mtg

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 pm by President Daura.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael DeVita  
Board Secretary