

SECAUCUS BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
DATED: SEPTEMBER 21, 2017

President McStowe called the meeting to order at 4PM and roll call taken as follows:

PRESENT: Messrs: Bartletta Giele, McStowe, Ms. Cali, Ms. O'Connell, Ms. Dellafave, Mrs. Hanley and Ms. Pantoliano

ABSENT: Mr. Lewis

President McStowe declared a quorum present

Also present: Kenneth J. Knops, Interim CSA
Grace Yeo, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Stephen Fogarty, Board Attorney

President McStowe, asked everyone to rise and join in the salute to the flag. In accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meeting Act, Vice President Pantoliano, announced that the Board Secretary had forwarded notice of this meeting for advertising by having the date, time and place thereof posted in the Secaucus Town Hall, on the bulletin board in the hallway of the Board of Education Administration Building, as well as being provided to the Secaucus Home News, Jersey Journal, and the Bergen Record.

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Ms. Cali

SECONDED BY: Ms. O'Connell

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act allows for the exclusion from discussion as the public portion of a meeting certain matters as outlined below, and

WHEREAS, the Secaucus Board of Education wishes to discuss such matters made and will make such discussion public when a proper conclusion has been reached:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education will hold a Closed Executive Session on this date, in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b (1), (2), (6), (7) and (8) for the purpose(s) as outlined and described below. These matters will be disclosed to the public as soon as the need for confidentiality no longer applies:

Board Members present unanimously adopted the foregoing Resolution.

Motion by Ms. O'Connell, seconded by Ms. Cali, and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to adjourn Executive Session and resume Regular Meeting at 7:08PM.

Showcase:

Mr. Knops introduced the children of Lt. Austin Hauxhurst, Hailey and Brianna. The sisters recently donated their hair to cancer patients to be made into wigs. Hailey and Brianna have previously provided their hair and feel that in their small way they can help those who are afflicted with cancer and as a result of medication lose their hair. The children were presented with awards of appreciation for their caring and for their continued support of those who are in need.

Also Mr. Knops introduced teachers Doug Depice, Melissa Heinjes and Amanda Wargocki who presented at the spring conference of NJ Council for Social Studies for Elementary teachers at Rutgers University. The theme of the conference was Teaching Time, Place and Citizenship, and the trio brought to the conference a new creative interdisciplinary approach for learning of the attack on the twin towers entitled The Survivor Tree that Tells Stories.

Organization Reports:

The Building Principals reported on opening school day which all went very smoothly, as well as the held and/or upcoming Back to School Nights. Also activities are underway at all the schools to celebrate the week of respect which is the first week of October. Principal Berckes announced that Secaucus High School was recently ranked 71 of the 511 school districts in NJ according to USA News.

District Testing Presentation:

Dr. Daniela Riser provided those in the audience with a very informative report of the state mandated PARCC testing for school year 2016-2017. This year's participation of students taking the test increased and scores fluctuated from the previous year, but curriculum criteria has been established to assist in the preparation of these tests.

Superintendent Report:

Recommended action on resolutions and motions to be presented under Committee Reports. Mr. Knops recapped the events of the "Superintendent's Convocation" which was held on September 6, 2017 including the remarks by Sentor Ruiz, as well as the special guest speaker former Principal Patrick Impreveduto.

Business Administrator/Board Secretary Report:

Recommended action on resolutions and motions to be presented under Committee Reports. I would like to start by thanking the Central Office Staff, Fran, AnnMarie, Veronica, Eileen, Debbie B, Phyllis and Michael for your dedication and the many hours you have put in over the summer. People often think the summer is our slowest time, when in reality it is our busiest. Closing out the budget for the old school year and the opening of the new school year, simultaneously is a job within itself. Also, I would like to thank Debbie Z, our Transportation Supervisor who coordinates all the bussing needs of our district; which is very challenging job, but she always finds a way to accommodate our needs.

This summer our IT Dept. was also very busy in completing a multitude of projects (22 to be exact). I won't list them all, but would like to highlight a few of the projects; namely:

- Replaced 122 old computers
- Upgraded Microsoft 2013 in all labs
- Installed new and repositioned camera's in MS/HS
- Prepared the E Pod at Clarendon for Board Office move
- Fixed VPN connection to Millridge School for 2way communication.

In addition, the IT Dept. throughout the school year reviewed, renegotiated and canceled contracts which led to a \$100,000 savings to the district; which then allowed the purchase of new Promethean Boards. I would like to thank Angel Perez, IT Manager & his staff: A.J. Tobia, Justin Estruch and the newest team member Matthew Miller...Great Job!

Finally, this summer our custodial staff has been busy painting, checking and replacing light bulbs, stripping and waxing classrooms and hallways, preventative maintenance on HVAC equipment, replaced a hot water heater and boiler in Clarendon's F POD. Construction of the E POD in preparation for the Central office move from 20 Centre Ave. to Clarendon. Thank you to our B&G staff, Lea Ann Nicolich, Admin. Assistant, our Head Custodians and the entire custodial staff. This past weekend the Central Office staff has officially moved to Clarendon and I would like to thank Mr. Viggiani and his staff for welcoming us and making us feel at home again.

A special thank you to Keith Degleman, Al Martini for all their hard work in constructing our new home and preparing it for us. Thank you to Enzo Castelli, Rocky Sinisi, Keith Degelman, Al Martini, Ed Sinisi and Lea Ann for all your support and help on Saturday in making our move a smooth one. It is greatly appreciated.

Also, we wish all who are celebrating a Happy Roshanah

Motion by Ruby Pantoliano, seconded by Norma Hanley to hold a Special Board Meeting on September 27, 2017 at 6:30PM at Administrative Offices, 685 Fifth Street.

Public Agenda Comments: None

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

1.Human Resources

R1.1

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: **Joan Cali**

SECONDED BY: **Norma Hanley**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby appoint the following individuals, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent:

Raymond Dorso Interim Special Services Director
Compensation: \$121,268
Account # 11-000-219-104-000-17
UPC # 240.CO.DIR.CO.03
Effective Date: 09/27/17

R1.2

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: **Joan Cali**

SECONDED BY: **Norma Hanley**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves to appoint the following Per Diem for the 2017-18/SY

Name	Position	Certificate	Rate
Melody Marti	Substitute Teacher	Substitute	\$85/per day
Brittany Yannetti	Substitute Teacher	Teaching Certification Physical Education	\$90/per day
Dylan Segro	Custodian	N/A	\$13/per hour
Leonard Ramirez	Custodian	N/A	\$13/per hour
Brian Marmora	Custodian	N/A	\$13/per hour
Brooke Berthel	Bus Aide	N/A	\$12.54/per hour
Michael Heaney	Custodian	N/A	\$13/per hour

R1.3

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: **Joan Cali**

SECONDED BY: **Norma Hanley**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves to retroactively appoint the following individuals to revise STEM Curriculum for grades 6-8

Name	Compensation
Marissa Capobianco	\$600
Antonia Ricciardi	\$600

R1.4

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Joan Cali

SECONDED BY: Norma Hanley

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves to appoint the following individuals to Extra Curricular Positions for the 2017/2018 SY

Name	School	Positions	Stipend
Allison Alvarez	High School	School Store	\$1,400
Amanda Wassong	Clarendon	Elementary SGO	\$1,400*

R1.5

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Joan Cali

SECONDED BY: Norma Hanley

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves the sidebar agreement addressing 2017-2018 school calendar

R1.6

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Joan Cali

SECONDED BY: Norma Hanley

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves to revise the 2017-2018 School Calendar to reflect February 15, 2018 and March 29, 2018 as one session days as per the Side Bar Agreement with the Secaucus Education Association.

R1.7

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Joan Cali

SECONDED BY: Norma Hanley

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves to raise the starting salary for Bus Drivers to \$20/per hour

R1.8

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Joan Cali

SECONDED BY: Norma Hanley

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves to increase the salary of the following Bus Drivers effective October 1, 2017

First Name	Last Name	Salary	Increase
Robert	Acerra	\$16.87	\$20.00
Luis	Aceveda	\$16.87	\$20.00
Gwendolen	Baroqueiro	\$17.22	\$20.22
Giuseppe	Boccassini	\$21.27	\$24.27
Juan	Cabezas	\$16.87	\$20.00
Mary	Carter	\$16.87	\$20.00
James	Clancy Sr.	\$24.67	\$27.67
Marleny	Dones	\$16.87	\$20.00
Leyla	Estrada	\$18.62	\$21.62
Jose	Gutierrez	\$16.87	\$20.00
Alan	Kashian	\$24.67	\$27.67
Julia	Kashian	\$24.67	\$27.67
Edward	Kelly	\$18.62	\$21.62
Richard	Korycinski	\$17.22	\$20.22
Genevieve	Leppin	\$24.67	\$27.67
Claudio	Macchieraldo	\$24.67	\$27.67
Thelma	Mahvan	\$16.87	\$20.00
Glenn	Meicke	\$17.22	\$20.22
Gloria	Meicke	\$24.67	\$27.67
Saverio	Minervini	\$24.67	\$27.67
Alexandra	Moran	\$16.87	\$20.00
Blaine	Papaccio	\$16.87	\$20.00
Edward	Pasznick	\$21.12	\$24.12
Kailyn	Saldivar	\$16.87	\$20.00
Joseph	Schoendorf	\$20.52	\$23.52
James	Sheridan	\$17.67	\$20.67
Irene	Gardner Smart	\$16.87	\$20.00
Santos	Smith	\$16.87	\$20.00
Lila	Tavarez	\$16.87	\$20.00
Kathleen	Uttariello	\$16.87	\$20.00
Yermy	Villalona	\$16.87	\$20.00
William	Waters	\$18.62	\$21.62

R1.9

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: **Joan Cali**

SECONDED BY: **Norma Hanley**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves to amend Resolution 1.19 from the June 15, 2017 Board Meeting for the Huber Street School Drama Club Stipend from \$2,100 to \$2,900 shared between Cindy Viera and Alexis Leppin.

R1.10

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: **Joan Cali**

SECONDED BY: **Norma Hanley**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves to amend Resolutions 1.17 from the August 24, 2017 Board Meeting to reflect Ann Marie Grecco’s salary as \$54,578 for the 2017/2018 SY.

M1.1 Motion to post for the following:

- Temporary Teacher to cover Lunch at Clarendon School
- Middle School AM/PM Detention
- Anticipated opening Central Office Administrative Assistant to Business Administrator/Board Secretary

The foregoing resolutions and motion were adopted by a roll call vote as follows:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Lance Bartletta			R1.1	
Joan Cali	X			
Sharon Dellafave	X			
Louis Giele	X			
Norma Hanley	X			
Joseph Lewis				X
John McStowe	X			
Kathy O'Connell	X			
Ruby Pantoliano	X			

2.Policy

R2.1

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Norma Hanley

SECONDED BY: Joan Cali

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to adopt the second reading of the following policies:

- 1240 Evaluation of Superintendent
- 3221 Evaluation of Teachers
- 3222 Evaluation of Teaching Staff members Excluding Teachers and Administrators
- 3223 Evaluation of Administrators, Excluding Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals
- 3224 Evaluation of Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals
- 7424 Bed Bugs
- 7461 District Sustainability Policy

The foregoing resolutions were adopted by a roll call vote as follows:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Lance Bartletta	X			
Joan Cali	X			
Sharon Dellafave	X			
Louis Giele	X			
Norma Hanley	X			
Joseph Lewis				X
John McStowe	X			
Kathy O'Connell	X			
Ruby Pantoliano	X			

3.Shared Services

Mr. McStowe thanked the Town of Secaucus Department of Public Works and the interlocal plumber for their assistance this summer in bringing the Pre-K building up to code to meet the Department of Educations standards.

4. Legislation – No Report

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

5. Curriculum

R5.1

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Kathy O’Connell

SECONDED BY: Joan Cali

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent, the annexed Field Trips.

R5.2

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Kathy O’Connell

SECONDED BY: Joan Cali

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves, to adopt the revised STEM Curriculum for grades 6-8.

R5.3

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Kathy O’Connell

SECONDED BY: Joan Cali

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves, the 2017 HIB Self Assessments for Clarendon, Huber Street, Middle School and High School

R5.4

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Kathy O’Connell

SECONDED BY: Joan Cali

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves, the 2017-2018 Mentoring Plan

R5.5

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Kathy O’Connell

SECONDED BY: Joan Cali

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves, the semiannual Violence and Vandalism Report

The foregoing resolutions were adopted by a roll call vote as follows:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Lance Bartletta	X			
Joan Cali	X			
Sharon Dellafave	X			
Louis Giele	X			
Norma Hanley	X			
Joseph Lewis				X
John McStowe	X			
Kathy O'Connell	X			
Ruby Pantoliano	X			

6. Athletics

R6.1

INTRODUCED BY: Ruby Pantoliano

SECONDED BY: Kathy O'Connell

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education approves participation in an Athletic Cooperative for Ice Hockey with the Kearny Board of Education conditional upon its approval of an agreement with the Kearny Board of Education and approval by the NJSIAA.

The board shall convene a Special Meeting on September 27, 2017 to approve the Agreement for submission to the NJSIAA before October 1, 2017.

The foregoing resolutions was adopted by a roll call vote as follows:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Lance Bartletta	X			
Joan Cali	X			
Sharon Dellafave	X			
Louis Giele	X			
Norma Hanley	X			
Joseph Lewis				X
John McStowe	X			
Kathy O'Connell	X			
Ruby Pantoliano	X			

7. School Technology – No Report

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

8. Finance

R8.1

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Sharon Dellafave

SECONDED BY: Joan Cali

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Board of Education approve the check register, as submitted by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to pay bills and claims in the amount of \$529,050.27.

R8.2

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Sharon Dellafave

SECONDED BY: Joan Cali

BE IT RESOLVED: the Report of Transfers submitted by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary for the month of July within the various appropriations for the 2016-2017 school year as shown on the annexed report.

R8.3

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Sharon Dellafave

SECONDED BY: Joan Cali

BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.12(e), we certify that the Financial Reports of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary and the Treasurer of School Monies, as presented by the School Business Administrator for the month(s) of July be placed on file. The Reports are in agreement. The Board of Education, after review of the Secretary’s Financial Reports (Appropriations Section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, hereby certifies to the best of our knowledge, no major account or funds have been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.23(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

R8.4

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Sharon Dellafave

SECONDED BY: Joan Cali

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby authorizes the Board President and Business Administrator/Board Secretary to execute the Settlement Agreement and Release between the Secaucus Board of Education and parents of student ID #13321.

The foregoing resolutions was adopted by a roll call vote as follows:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Lance Bartletta	X			
Joan Cali	X			
Sharon Dellafave	X			
Louis Giele	X			
Norma Hanley	X			
Joseph Lewis				X
John McStowe	X			
Kathy O’Connell	X			
Ruby Pantoliano	X			

9. Safety/Security – Buildings & Grounds

R9.1

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Sharon Dellafave

SECONDED BY: Ruby Pantoliano

BE IT RESOLVED that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby authorizes the Chief School Administrator and Business Administrator/Board Secretary to submit the annual Statement of Assurance that testing for school year 2016-2017 for lead in drinking water has been completed for the Secaucus School District.

The foregoing resolutions was adopted by a roll call vote as follows:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Lance Bartletta	X			
Joan Cali	X			
Sharon Dellafave	X			
Louis Giele	X			
Norma Hanley	X			
Joseph Lewis				X
John McStowe	X			
Kathy O'Connell	X			
Ruby Pantoliano	X			

10. Technology – No Report

Public General Comments –

Tom Troyer – Reminiscenced as a teacher and how he addressed students who may have plagiarized school work. The reason being he received in his home mailbox a copy of the newly hired Superintendent’s resignation letter. There was no return address as to who left it in his mailbox. He also indicated that the letter may have been utilized by someone else for resignation purposes. Since the letter was left anonymously there is no proof as to the origin of the letter. Perhaps the board should reconsider and redo the search for Superintendent, and consider staff within the district who qualify for the position.

Cory Robinson – Congratulated the Administrators for the outstanding, informative Back to School Nights which were recently held.

Further, Secaucus is the type of town where everyone cares for one another, especially for children. By participating in the ice-hockey cooperative you (the board) have provided a great opportunity for the children and sincerely thank you.

Board Member Comments

The Board Members expressed their thanks and appreciation to those who were Showcased this evening. All extended welcome to the Interim Director of Special Services, Ray Dorso. All welcomed back the faculty and staff, looking forward to another successful school year, acknowledging that it takes an “army” to get to opening day.

Mr. McStowe stated that although USA rated the High School #71 in the state, this should be attributed to the outstanding education provided K-8 to our children.

Motion by Ruby Pantoliano, seconded by Kathy O’Connell, and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:29PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Grace Yeo,
Board Secretary