

SECAUCUS BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
DATED: AUGUST 7, 2013

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

PRESENT: Messrs. Anderson, Lewis, Riebesell, McStowe, Mrs. D'Addetta, O'Connell,
Snedeker and Ms. Marra

ABSENT: Mr. Gerbasio

LATE ARRIVAL:

President McStowe declared a quorum present

Also present: Robert Presuto, CSA
Grace Yeo, Acting SBA/BS
Stephen Fogarty, Board Attorney
LaMonica McIver

Vice President Riebesell, 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 Riebesell, announced that the Acting 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: Mr. Anderson

SECONDED BY: Mr. Lewis

WHEREAS, it shall be necessary for the Secaucus Board of Education to discuss subjects concerning personnel matters;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the aforesaid subject will be discussed in closed Executive Session pursuant to the provisions of P.L. 1975, Chapter 231, and that such deliberations thereto will be made available to the public as soon as the reasons for non-disclosure no longer exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education went into Executive Session at 4pm in order to discuss personnel.

Board Members present unanimously adopted the foregoing Resolution.

Motion by Mr. Riebesell, seconded by Mrs. Snedeker and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to adjourn Executive Session and resume Regular Meeting at 7:05PM.

Organizational Reports: None

Superintendent's Report

Recommended action on Motions and Resolutions would be presented under Committee Reports and New Business.

Mr. Presuto thanked Mr. Donald Evanson for his donation of the 75 gallon fish tank for the High School Library, and assured that the resident koi now has the ability to swim freely in the tank.

Mr. Presuto explained to those in attendance that the Dept. of Education had recently performed an audit of the NCLB and IDEA funds and procedures of SBOE. Since we receive these federal

funds, we are audited and for any deficiencies we must respond and prepare a Corrective Action Plan. The Corrective Action Plans was brought before the Board’s School Government and Curriculum Committee’s and is available to the public at the Administrative Office. He assured the public that audit findings indicated the grants performed in an efficiently manner.

Report by the Acting Secretary of the Board

Recommended action on Motions and Resolutions would be presented under Committee Reports and New Business.

Public Agenda Comments:

Tom Troyer, knowing that the Board cannot comment did propose the following questions:

1. With the resignation of LaMonica McIver, who will missed, is the position being posted and who will be responsible for checking proper certifications?
2. Understanding that hires are at different steps, who will be responsible?
3. Abolishment of positions, hopes that this is not temporary and they are put back at a later time.

Terry Schillari

Inquired as to the process of calling candidates for interviews and is there a policy as to the protocol? After informing the Board Members of the recent events in her daughter’s call for an interview, Board Attorney Stephen Fogarty, suggested she speak directly with the Superintendent concerning this matter as the Board cannot comment on personnel issues at a Board Meeting. Mrs. Schillari also questioned why there were no additional interviews after the July 18th meeting, but there were hires on the agenda. Mr. Presuto responded that all hires on July 18th were withdrawn for further review by the Board Committee’s and processing of certifications.

Committee Reports and New Business

1. School Government

R1.1

INTRODUCED BY: Gary Riebesell

SECONDED BY: Lisa Snedeker

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education, as recommended by the Superintendent, authorize employment contracts for the following individuals:

Name	Degree	Step	Salary	Acct.#	Course
Sara Confrti	BA	1	\$57,184	11-140-100-101-000-14	Italian
Janine Andreu	BA	1	\$57,184	20-231-100-101-000-14*	Basic Skills -Language / Arts
David Segro	BA	2	\$57,384	11-140-100-101-000-14	Physical Education & Health
Edward Roesing	BA	2	\$57,384	11-140-100-101-000-14	Math
Kevin Agnew	BA	4	\$57,787	20-231-100-101-000-14*	Math
Evan Pope*	BA	1	\$28,592	11-140-100-101-000-14	Social Studies
Meghan Maddalena	BA	2	\$57,384	11-140-100-101-000-14	Language Arts

*Part-time

*Title I Funds

R1.2

INTRODUCED BY: Gary Riebesell

SECONDED BY: Lisa Snedeker

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BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education, as recommended by the Superintendent, authorize employment contracts for the following individuals:

Name	Degree	Step	Salary	Acct. #	Course	Replacement	Reason
Amber Butler	MA	2	\$61,079	11-140-100-101-000-14	PE & Health	Tiffany Meyer	Maternity
Rianna LaGrassa	BA	3	\$57,584	11-140-100-101-000-14	Math	Fatma Mohamed	Resignation
Pasquale Cocucci	BA	1	\$57,184	11-130-100-101-000-15	Math	Zaida Couto	Transfer
Andre Wedeck	MA	1	\$60,879	11-140-100-101-000-14	Math	Amanda Prieto	Maternity
Nancy Moussa	MA	5	\$61,686	11-213-100-101-014-17	Special Ed	Stephan Kneisel	RIF
Donald Somerset	MA	1	\$60,879	11-130-100-101-000-15	Social Studies	Sean Collison	RIF

R1.3

INTRODUCED BY: Gary Riebesell

SECONDED BY: Lisa Snedeker

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education, as recommended by the Superintendent, authorize employment contracts for the following individuals:

Name	Degree	Step	Salary	Acct. #	Grade	Replacement	Reason	School
Jennine Preduto	BA	3	\$57,584	11-120-100-101-000-13	2	M.Maxwell	Family	Huber
Danielle Holland	BA	2	\$57,584	11-120-100-101-000-13	5	M.Lopena	Maternity	Huber
Manal Abuhouran	MA	2	\$61,079	11-120-100-101-000-12	4	C. Lenas	Resigned	Clarendon
Stephanie Forgacz	BA	2	\$57,384	11-120-100-101-000-12	6	L.Smith-Bonin	Maternity	Clarendon
Melissa Connor	MA	3	\$61,279	11-216-100-101-012-17	MD	L.Abello*	PreK Dis	Clarendon
Melissa Dargan-Heintjes	MA	8	\$62,505	11-120-100-101-000-12 & 11-130-100-101-000-12	Art	D. Brassel	Retire	Clarendon

*Additional Pre-K Disabled

R1.4

INTRODUCED BY: Gary Riebesell

SECONDED BY: Lisa Snedeker

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education approve, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, to abolish the following Director positions pursuant of contractual positions:

Directory of Elementary Education
Director of Secondary Education

R1.5

INTRODUCED BY: Gary Riebesell

SECONDED BY: Lisa Snedeker

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education approve the following appointments, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, for school year 2013-2014:

- Allison Cunniff, Middle School Activity Account Treasurer –stipend \$1900.00
- Christina Calabrese, High School Activity Account Treasurer-stipend \$1900.00

R1.6

INTRODUCED BY: Gary Riebesell

SECONDED BY: Lisa Snedeker

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education approve to appoint Robert Valente as Secaucus Middle School Principal for the school year 2013-2014, at a salary of \$115,100 (Step 1 of the Secaucus School Administrators Association Agreement).

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

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Robert Anderson	X			
Kelli D'Addetta	X			
John Gerbasio				X
Joseph Lewis	X			
Dora Marra	X*			
Kathy O'Connell	X			
Gary Riebesell	X			
Lisa Snedeker			X	
Jack McStowe, President	X			

Note: Ms. Marra abstained on the appointment of Manal Abuhouran as Elementary Teacher to replace Cara Lenas.

M1.1 Motion to accept the resignation of Bari Cohen, Speech Language Specialist, effective August 15, 2013.

M1.2 Motion to accept the resignation of LaMonica McIver, Human Resource Specialist, effective September 1, 2013.

M1.3 Motion to post for the following positions:

- Director of Technology Education Data Assessment and Grants for school year 2013-2014 replacing Robert Presuto
- Speech Language Specialist position for school year 2013-2014
- Replacement Speech Language Specialist for October 2013 to June 2014 to replace Bari Cohen
- Human Resource Specialist for the 2013-2014 to replace LaMonica McIver
- Post for Co-curricular positions for the 2013-2014 school year:
 - Band Director \$6305.00
 - Band Instructors (4) \$3945

M1.4 Motion to create and post for Director of Curriculum & Instruction for the 2013-2014 school year.

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2. Curriculum

R2.1

INTRODUCED BY: Robert Anderson

SECONDED BY: Gary Riebesell

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education approve the annexed field trips for school year 2013-2014

R2.2

INTRODUCED BY: Robert Anderson

SECONDED BY: Gary Riebesell

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education approve the 2012-2013 HIB/EVVRS report, maintained in the Superintendent's Office.

R2.3

INTRODUCED BY: Robert Anderson

SECONDED BY: Gary Riebesell

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education approve the consolidated Monitoring Corrective Action Plan, as described in the report maintained in the Superintendent's Office.

R2.4

INTRODUCED BY: Robert Anderson

SECONDED BY: Gary Riebesell

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education approve the following curriculum:

- World Language- Level 1
- World Language- Level 4
- World Language Cultural Enrichment Cycle
- Computer Art II
- Art I
- Art II
- Accelerated Mathematics Grade 7

R2.5

INTRODUCED BY: Robert Anderson

SECONDED BY: Gary Riebesell

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education approve the following curriculum:

- World Language- Levels 1 & 4
- Mathematics- Grades 7 & 8

R2.6

INTRODUCED BY: Robert Anderson

SECONDED BY: Gary Riebesell

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education approve the following curriculum:

- Mathematics Pre-assessments and Resource Binders for Grades 7 & 8

Public Comments:

Tom Troyer inquired if anyone (general audience) went to the Legend Diner to meet Governor Christie. The audience chuckled in response.

Board Member Comments

All board members present congratulated Robert Valente on his appointment as Principal of Middle School and are confident he will exceed their expectations.

Dora Marra: Commented on how well the schools looked and congratulated all the custodians for a great job.

Kathy O'Connell: Looking forward to a great new year.

Robert Anderson: The pieces are beginning to fit, and we are on the great track. Looking forward to a great year.

Jack McStowe: Expressed regret with the resignation of LaMonica, but wished her much success. He also expressed gratitude to Ms. Linda Diemer for all of her hard work in stepping in as the Middle School Principal.

The board members also extended everyone a happy and safe summer.

Motion by Dora Marra, seconded by Kelli D'Addetta, and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:15PM

Respectfully submitted,

Grace Yeo,
Acting Board Secretary