

SECAUCUS BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
DATED APRIL 24, 2013:

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

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

LATE ARRIVAL:

President McStowe declared a quorum present

Also present: Robert Presuto, CSA
Richard T. Calhoun, Interim BA/BS
Francelis De Oca Montes
Victorio LaPira

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. Riebesell

SECONDED BY: Mr. Gerbasio

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 4:08PM in order to discuss personnel.

Board Members present unanimously adopted the foregoing Resolution.

Motion by Mr. Riebesell, seconded by Mr. Lewis, and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to adjourn Executive Session and resume Regular Meeting at 6:55PM.

Motion by Ms. O'Connell, seconded by Ms. Marra, and unanimously adopted by board members present to accept and approve the following board meeting minutes:

Regular March 20, 2014, with Ms. Snedeker abstaining

Public Hearing March 31, 2014, with Mr. Gerbasio and Ms. Snedeker abstaining

Organization Reports:

- Middle School-** Mr. Robert Valente provided an update of the following events and/or activities
- Art Project by Mr. Doug DePice at the Public Library depicting the Holocaust
 - Winner of County Essay on Anti-Bullying, Victoria Saniko,
 - Civil War movie with 3D classes in Ms. Amanda Jones' class
 - Faculty vs. Students handball, students beat the faculty
 - Arbor Day Environmental Club will be assisting DPW in planting trees
 - Administrative Assistant Professional Day, stated Cheryl Rhiel and Annette Aligo are the faces of the Middle School and appreciate all they do.
 - Congratulations on the budget approval by the voters

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Huber Street School – Mrs. Wilhelm provided an update of the following events and/or activities:

- Recent Candy Lane Social was successful; the children had a wonderful time
- SGO representatives voluntarily organized with the staff and children a drive to assist the school in Edison, which was destroyed in a fire, to collect supplies for the teachers, games/toys for the children. The response was overwhelming and will be delivered shortly to them.
- As a result of Mr. Cocucci's brainchild several years ago, both Clarendon and Huber held their annual meeting with parents to assist in the transition from 6th grade to 7th grade.
- Thanked Mrs. Sinisi and Ms. Testa for all their hard work and dedication working with the students and staff at Huber Street, congratulating them on Administrative Assistant Day.

Clarendon School – Mr. Cocucci provided an update of the following events and/or activities:

- PARCC testing went extremely well at both elementary schools, with the assistance of Dr. Tom Tufaro and staff of IT, Rene Toledo and Adam Estruch and AJ Tobia.
- World Autism Day students and staff all wore blue recognizing autism awareness.
- Charlotte's Web was presented to the 3rd graders with a picnic in the gym.
- 6th grade parent transition meeting is dedicated to parents as to what to expect and how/what their children are going through.
- Dance Club performance once again very successful, thanks to Mrs. Lamatina and the staff that volunteers to assist her with the program.
- Commended Mrs. Dalessio and Mrs. Santaniello and wished them congratulations on Administrative Assistant's Day.

High School – Dr. Berckes provided an update of the following events and/or activities:

- Congratulations to our new Board Members and approval of the budget
- Realtime and the parental portals are very informative when used properly
- Administrative Assistant's Day was co-jointly celebrated with Middle School and they enjoyed lunch with the Principals, he also expressed he would not trade Mrs. Nappo or Mrs. Preinfalk with any other staff.
- Middle States Accreditation will be held April 28th through May 1st, and extended invitation to the board. In addition, if you come across Mrs. Spiekerman or Mr. Costello, please extend a big thank you. Both have been working diligently on preparation.
- Gay/Straight Alliance, Dr. Berckes acknowledged how accepting and respectful students are towards one another for who they are.
- National Honor Society was held April 16th
- Don't forget to vote on Ugotbrains.com to vote for SHS so we win a driving simulator

Superintendent Report:

Motion by Mr. Riebesell, seconded by Mrs. O'Connell, to approve the reading of the HIB report as presented by the Superintendent for the period March 21, 2014 through April 22, 2014

Mr. Presuto provided an update on the following:

- All events are made possible through the community and the spirit of volunteering allows for the success of our events.
- Thanked all those who came out to vote and for supporting the budget.
- We soon will have to extend our good-bys to Lisa and Dora, and welcome Ruby and Lance.
- Congratulations to all those who performed and/or assisted in the production of West Side Story.....simply amazing!
- Clarendon's Rock Band performed at the annual Hudson County PTA at the Fiesta and rocked the room
- JSA again took over the Town Council Meeting and was awesome. The members conduct themselves respectfully and intelligently.
- Visit to Becton Regional High School Media Center which was just recently renovated so that we can take some ideas for the future.
- MS/HS Science Fair the exhibits were outstanding. More importantly the students are fully prepared and attentive to their projects.

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Recommended action on resolutions and motions to be presented under Committee Reports.

Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary Report:

Recommended action on resolutions and motions to be presented under Committee Reports.

Committee Reports and New Business

1. School Government

R1.1

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Gary Riebesell

SECONDED BY: John Gerbasio

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Secaucus Board of Education does hereby approve to appoint the following individuals to the co-curricular positions listed below, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools:

Elementary Environmental Trip Chaperones for the 2013-2014 school year; stipend of \$450.00 will apply.

Steven Viggiani
Laurie Valente
Edward Sommer
Yolanda Harrsch
William Millevoi
David Segro

Jennine Peduto
Eilish Viggiani
Michelle Primavera
Donald Somerset III
Pasquale Cocucci

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that compensation for these positions shall be contained in the Agreement between the Secaucus Education Association, Inc. and the Secaucus Board of Education and that no rights of tenure shall accrue by virtue of this appointment.

R1.2

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Gary Riebesell

SECONDED BY: John Gerbasio

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Secaucus Board of Education does hereby approve to appoint the following individuals to our Substitute List for the 2013-2014 school year as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools, and

- o Carolina Munoz - Substitute Certificate
- o Jeffrey Rennie - Substitute Certificate

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: compensation for substitute teachers the 2013-2014 school year is set as follows:

- \$75.00 per/day to start for individuals holding a Substitute Certificate.
- \$85.00 per/day after 40 days for individuals holding a Substitute Certificate
- \$80.00 per/day to start for Certified Teachers.
- \$90.00 per/day after 40 days for Certified Teachers
- \$125.00 per/day for Substitute School Nurses

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- M1.1** Motion by Mr. Riebesell, seconded by Mr. Gerbasio and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to accept with regret, the retirement of Karen Bonin, Elementary School Teacher effective June 30, 2014.
- M1.2** Motion by Mr. Riebesell, seconded by Mr. Gerbasio and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to accept with regret, the retirement of Sharon Cutola, Middle School Math Teacher effective June 30, 2014.
- M1.3** Motion by Mr. Riebesell, seconded by Mr. Gerbasio and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to approve Maternity/Child Rearing Leave for Maleesa Lamatina, Elementary School Teacher from May 12, 2014 – June 20, 2014, expected return to work of September 1, 2014.
- M1.4** Motion by Mr. Riebesell, seconded by Mr. Gerbasio and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to approve Maternity for Zahava Pianko, School Psychologist from June 3, 2014-June 20, 2014, and FMLA, Child Rearing Leave from September 2014-October 2014; expected return to work date November 3, 2014.
- M1.5** Motion by Mr. Riebesell, seconded by Mr. Gerbasio and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to post for one (1) Long Term Replacement Teacher for an Elementary Math Teacher (replacing Kerri Stamm) for the remainder of the 2013-2014 school year.
- M1.6** Motion by Mr. Riebesell, seconded by Mr. Gerbasio and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to post for confidential secretary –substitutes for ongoing recruitment.
- M1.7** Motion by Mr. Riebesell, seconded by Mr. Gerbasio and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to post for:
- Five (5) Full-Time Elementary School Teachers for the
2014-2015 school year
One (1) Part-Time English Language Learner Teacher for the
2014-2015 school year
One (1) Full-Time Middle School Math Teacher for the 2014-2015
- M1.8** Motion by Mr. Riebesell, seconded by Mr. Gerbasio and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to post for the following positions for the Special Education Extended School Year Program at Clarendon School from July 1 - July 31, 2014, from 8:30am - 12:30pm:
Special Education Teachers (approximately 6 teachers contingent upon enrollment)
Teaching Assistants/Classroom Aides (approximately 8 contingent upon enrollment)
One Speech Therapist (position may be split)
One School Nurse (position may be split)
School Psychologist(s) (variable hours as needed, up to 40)
School Social Work (variable hours as needed, up to 40)
Learning Consultant (variable hours as needed, up to 40)
- M1.9** Motion by Mr. Riebesell, seconded by Mr. Gerbasio and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to post for summer hiring of graduating high school seniors and college students for custodial work at \$13/hr. for 28 hours a week.

The forgoing resolutions and motions were 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			

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2. Curriculum**R2.1****RESOLUTION****INTRODUCED BY: Robert Anderson****SECONDED BY: Lisa Snedeker**

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Secaucus Board of Education does hereby approve the annexed Field Trips in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 53 – Fiscal Accountability Measures: Subchapter 5, Subsection 5.8.

The forgoing resolutions were 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			

3. Finance**R3.1****RESOLUTION****INTRODUCED BY: Joseph Lewis****SECONDED BY: Robert Anderson**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby authorizes the Business Administrator and President to execute contracts for out of district placement tuition for the 2013-2014 school year for:

School	Student	Tuition
DOE Regional Day School	DL	\$18,470.04 (April – June 2014)

R3.2**RESOLUTION****INTRODUCED BY: Joseph Lewis****SECONDED BY: Robert Anderson**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education does not require Willowglen Academy charge students for lunch for any out of district placements.

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R3.3**RESOLUTION**

INTRODUCED BY: **Joseph Lewis**

SECONDED BY: **Robert Anderson**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education approve, as recommended by Superintendent the annexed out of district travel as of April 24, 2014.

Employee Name	Date(s) of Event	Title of Event	Location	Registration Fee	Estimated Tolls and Mileage	Total Cost
R.Presuto	5/20/2014	NJASA/NJAPSA Spring Conference	Atlantic City	\$450.00	Tolls - \$10 Mileage -252 X .31 \$78.12	\$538.12
T.Tufaro	4/28/2014	Sexual Harassment	Monroe Twp.	\$150.00	Mileage - 87 X .31 \$26.97	\$176.97
S.Smahl	5/21-23, 2014	Success is Choice	Atlantic City	\$450.00	Tolls - \$10 Mileage -252 X .31 \$78.12 Meals & Lodging	\$973.52
J.Preiss	5/19/2014	Gang Awareness	Paterson	\$95.00		\$95.00
J.McStowe	6/4/ & 6/5/2014	NJAFPA	Atlantic City	\$149/day	Tolls - \$10 Mileage 252 X .31 \$78.12 Lodging \$92 Meals \$66	\$544.12
K.D'Addetta	6/4/ & 6/5/2014	NJAFPA	Atlantic City	\$149/day	Tolls - \$10 Mileage 252 X .31 \$78.12 Lodging \$92 Meals \$66	\$544.12

R3.4 was tabled for further review

The forgoing resolutions were 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			

4. Safety, Security Buildings & Grounds

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R4.1

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: **John Gerbasio**

SECONDED BY: **Lisa Snedeker**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education authorize the transportation coordinator to submit the annexed School Bus Emergency Evacuation Drill Reports for Clarendon Elementary, Huber Street Elementary, Secaucus Middle School, and Secaucus High School.

The forgoing resolutions were 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			

5. Technology –No Report

6. Policy – No Report

7. Athletic Liasion

Mr. Riebesell provided an overview of the girls and boys team(s) spring sports including the recent event to University of Pennsylvania Relays.

8. Shared Services – No Report

9. Legislative Report – Tabled for review

Public General Comments-

Robyn Kelly -683 Hudson Avenue respectfully requested that the Secaucus Marching Band not conduct band camp at Clarendon School. The music from 8am to 6pm for several days is too much for the neighbors. Whatever happened to East Stroudsburg, PA? When her daughter was in the marching band they went away to camp every year. Please consider her request. Mr. McStowe responded that the Board would consider her request.

Board Member Comments

Bobby Anderson – congratulated Ruby Pantoliano and Lance Bartletta on the being elected to the Board, and Karen Bonin and Sharon Cutola on their retirement. He thanked Interim Business Administrator, Rich Calhoun, Superintendent, Rob Presuto, for their hard work on the budget presentation. Most importantly thanked the community for their continued support. Just a “tid bit” of information. All field trips are scrutinized and planned by the Director of Curriculum, Linda Diemer, and we also insure that there are nurses accompanying the students.

Kelli D'Addetta – Thanked all those who worked so hard preparing the budget, Rob Presuto, Rich Calhoun, Grace Yeo, Mayor Gonnelli and Town Council and to the voters who came out to

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vote. Congratulations to Ruby and Lance and Joe. Great things go on in our schools. Congratulations to Jack McStowe for receiving sufficient credits by NJSBA as a Board Member and will be honored at an upcoming round table meeting. After last meeting Mrs. D'Addetta did some investigating on Leo Rossano, and provided those in attendance with a brief biography of Mr. Rossano's tenure with the Board of Education, and wished him well at his retirement.

Lisa Snedeker- Expressed her sincere thanks to all those who came out to vote for the budget. Sr. Citizen Prom is the most heartwarming and her favorite event. The Senior Citizen's love it and appreciate all of the effort and hard work that goes into this event. Mrs. Snedeker requested that Mrs. Wilhelm hold up on sending supplies to the Edison school, so that she can also gather supplies on behalf of the Town.

Joe Lewis – To Karen Bonin and Sharon Cutola, congratulations and good luck. Joe extended his good wishes to Ruby and Lance and welcomes them on board. To the voters who came out to vote, thank you for your support.

John Gerbasio – Thanked all those in attendance who come to the meetings, it is always appreciated. Congratulations to Ruby, Lance and Joe. Special thanks to all those who worked so hard on the budget and for the public's support.

Dora Marra- Thank you and appreciate your support of the budget. Good wishes and congratulations to Ruby, Lance and Joe. Don't forget, "if you see something say something", we always look for ways to make our schools better.

Kathy O'Connell – Listening to all of the Principals reporting on the various activities in the schools is amazing. It is more than academics, it is character building. If you have any supplies that you may have at home for the school in Edison, please drop it off at Huber. Suggested that the Editor of the Home News place an advertisement in the next edition providing the website information so that everyone can go on line and vote for Secaucus High School Media Academy in our quest for not only promoting safe driving but to win a driving simulator.

Gary Riebesell – Sharon and Karen good luck in your retirement. Ruby, Lance and Joe congratulations on your election. Thank you to the Mayor and Town Council for supporting the budget. Besides placing the Media Academy information in the next edition of the Home News, can we send out a "connect ed" encouraging the vote. Mr. Riebesell also commented on the performers and crew of West Side Story, and stated they were all amazing.

Jack McStowe- Thanked everyone who helped prepare the budget and more importantly supporting the budget. Mr. McStowe acknowledged and thanked the Board Office Staff on Administrative Assistant Day for all of their hard work and all that they do. Congratulations to Ruby, Lance and Joe on their successful election. If you didn't see West Side Story you missed out on a great performance by the cast and production people.

Motion by Mr. Gerbasio, seconded by Mr. Anderson, and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:06pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard T. Calhoun,
Interim Board Secretary

