

SECAUCUS BOARD OF EDUCATION
 BOARD MEETING REGULAR MINUTES
 DATED: FEBRUARY 25, 2016

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

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

LATE ARRIVALS: Mr. Bartletta

President Gerbasio declared a quorum present

Also present: Kenneth J. Knops, Interim CSA
 Edward J. Appleton, Interim BA/BS
 Stephen Fogarty, Board Attorney

Vice 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 McStowe, 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: Mr. McStowe

SECONDED BY: Ms. Cali

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:

- 1. Confidential Matters per Statue or Court Order
- 2. Impact Rights to Receive Federal Funds
- 3. Unwarranted Invasion of Individual Privacy
- 4. Collective Bargaining
- 5. Acquisition of Real Property or Investment of Funds

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- ___ 6. Public Safety Procedures
- ___ 7. Litigation or Contract Matters or Attorney/Client Privilege
- ___ 8. Personnel Matters
- ___ 9. Imposition of Penalties upon an Individual

Board Members present unanimously adopted the foregoing Resolution.

Motion by Mr. McStowe, seconded by Ms. Cali, and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to adjourn Executive Session and resume Regular Meeting at 7:24PM.

Motion by Mr. Lewis, seconded by Mr. McStowe and unanimously adopted by board members present to accept and approve the Special Meeting of January 18, 2016 and Regular Meeting of January 28, 2016 board meeting minutes.

Organization Reports: -None

Principal Reports:

Each principal provided an update of all events, activities and accomplishments during the period January and February in each of their schools. It should be noted that Madison Delaney, a Middle School Student, whose hair is down her lower back, will be shaving her head for Children's Cancer research. Mr. Valente extended his good wishes to Mrs. Linda Diemer in her retirement, while Mrs. Wilhelm extended Birthday wishes to Mr. Valente and Mr. Lewis.

Showcase of Success

The following students were recognized by Interim Superintendent and Principals, and awarded Certificates of Merit:

- Vinit Parikh has scored perfect 800 on the SAT's not once but twice! He will be going for a three peat this spring.
- Akash Rana scored perfect 800 on the SAT's
- Jovin Ramos – scored his 1000 point in high school basketball
- Anushka Advani – winner of the Middle School Geography Bee
- Ayush Agarwal – winner of Clarendon's Geography Bee and will be qualifying for nationals in the near future.
- Arhan Menon – winner of Huber's Geography Bee
- Hampton Taylor- At the age of 6, Hampton has been volunteering for the last three years. She has written Mother's Day and Father's Day cards to those in nursing homes, she has been awarded Little Miss New Jersey (she brought her crown with her), has collected toiletries for soldiers, and will be collecting shoes for the homeless. Many of her efforts are done during the summer and is always thinking of ways to help others.

Superintendent Report:

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

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Mr. Knops congratulated each of the recipients of Showcase of Success. He welcomed Ms. Casey Perez who will be appointed this evening. Mr. Knops further explained the policies which will be adopted.

Mr. Knops wished much success and good will to Ms. Linda Diemer, who will be retiring later this year. Working with her has been an absolute delight and she will be missed. He also wished her Linda's sister, Judy, much success as the Superintendent of State of New Jersey.

Motion by Mr. McStowe, seconded by Mr. Lewis, and unanimously adopted by board members present to accept the Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying findings for the period ending January 28, 2016 as reported, which are available at the Administrative Offices for review.

Business Administrator/Board Secretary Report:

Recommended action on resolutions and motions to be presented under Committee Reports. Motion by Mr. McStowe, seconded by Mr. Lewis, and unanimously adopted by board members present to hold a Special Board Meeting to approve the tentative budget on Wednesday, March 16, 2016 at 4pm at the Administrative Offices.

Public Agenda Comments:

Ms. Nancy Lynch, President of the SEA, extended to Ms. Linda Diemer well wishes in her retirement. Ms. Lynch and Ms. Diemer worked together many years and she was an excellent teacher, and Director of Curriculum; she will be missed.

Ms. Lynch also inquired as to the type of classroom size waiver was being requested (referred to in R2.4). Mr. Knops indicated it was a resource classroom.

Committee Reports and New Business

1. School Government

R1.1

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Mr. McStowe

SECONDED BY: Mrs. Hanley

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

- Helen Ropas LTR Social Worker (L. Sprow replacement)
Compensation: MA, Step 1: \$61,179
Account #: 11-000-219-104-000-17
Effective Date: 3/14/16 - 6/24/16
**prorated for the employment period*

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R1.2**RESOLUTION**

INTRODUCED BY: Mr. McStowe

SECONDED BY: Ms. Hanley

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent, to appoint the following per diem positions for 2015-2016/SY:

Name	Per Diem Position	Certification	Compensation
Angelica Barile	Substitute Teacher	Substitute Teacher	Days 1-41 \$85/day Day 42+ \$105
Monica Berckes	Substitute Teacher	Substitute Teacher	Days 1-41 \$85/day Day 42+ \$105
Colleen Behan	Substitute Teacher	Substitute Teacher	Days 1-41 \$85/day Day 42+ \$105
Cristina Fuentes	Substitute Teacher	Substitute Teacher	Days 1-41 \$85/day Day 42+ \$105
Yuki Kikuyama	Substitute Teacher	CEAS-Spanish	Days 1-41 \$90/day Day 42+ \$105
Gregory Drelich	Security Guard	N/A	\$20/hr
Anthony Nogueira	Security Guard	N/A	\$20/hr

R1.3**RESOLUTION**

INTRODUCED BY: Mr. McStowe

SECONDED BY: Mrs. Hanley

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Secaucus Board of Education does hereby approve to appoint the following individuals to Co-Curricular positions for the 2015-16 SY.

Name	Position	Stipend
Deena Megaro	SOFTBALL – ASST. COACH	\$3,590
Anthony Cassese	BASEBALL – VOLUNTEER	PRO BONO
Carla Volpe	TRACK & FIELD – ASST. COACH	\$3,140*
Pasquale Cocucci	TRACK & FIELD – ASST. COACH	\$3,140*

*Shared

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R1.4

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Mr. McStowe

SECONDED BY: Mrs. Hanley

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Secaucus Board of Education does hereby approve of salary increment for the following individual who has acquired an advanced degree and/or additional credits. Salary will be retroactive to November 15, 2015: (based on 2015-16/SY salary guide):

Name	FY16 Level	FY16 Salary
Zahava Pianko	MA 6th Yr	\$67,301

R1.5

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Mr. McStowe

SECONDED BY: Mrs. Hanley

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Secaucus Board of Education does hereby approve to adjust salary guide step for Kathleen Gerbasio from step 8 to step 9 at a salary of \$64,093. Salary will be retroactive to November 15, 2015 (based on 2015-16/SY salary guide)

R1.6

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Mr. McStowe

SECONDED BY: Mrs. Hanley

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Secaucus Board of Education does hereby approve to retroactively appoint the following individuals to the Clarendon after school supplemental program at \$35/hr. not to exceed \$8,400

Basic Skills Mathematics 12 Week Program not to exceed \$2,520

Name	Position
Nicole Bonito	3 rd Grade
Michelle Primavera	4 th Grade
Josephine Amato-Lewis	4 th Grade
William Millevoi	5 th Grade
Jolanda Harrsch	5 th Grade
Danielle Giunta	6 th Grade

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

2. Curriculum

R2.1

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Ms. O'Connell

SECONDED BY: Mr. Lewis

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

R2.2

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Ms. O'Connor

SECONDED BY: Mr. Lewis

BE IT RESOLVED; that the Secaucus Board of Education does here by approve to implement the Special Education Extended School Year Program: Monday – Thursday from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. from July 5, 2016 – July 28, 2016

R2.3

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Ms. O'Connor

SECONDED BY: Mr. Lewis

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BE IT RESOLVED; that the Secaucus Board of Education does here by approve to implement a Summer Supplemental Math Program for Middle and High School

R2.4**RESOLUTION**

INTRODUCED BY: Ms. O'Connell

SECONDED BY: Mr. Lewis

BE IT RESOLVED; that the Secaucus Board of Education does here by approve to submit a request for a Classroom Size Waiver at Huber Street School

R2.5**RESOLUTION**

INTRODUCED BY: Ms. O'Connell

SECONDED BY: Mr. Lewis

BE IT RESOLVED; that the Secaucus Board of Education does here by approves to obtain and implement multi- Level ESL Textbooks, purchased through Title III Funds.

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

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

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3. Finance**R3.1****RESOLUTION****INTRODUCED BY:** Mr. Lewis**SECONDED BY:** Mrs. Pantoliano

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Board of Education approve the check register, as submitted by the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary to pay bills and claims in the amount of \$4,209,770.51.

R3.2**RESOLUTION****INTRODUCED BY:** Mr. Lewis**SECONDED BY:** Mrs. Pantoliano

BE IT RESOLVED: the Report of Transfers submitted by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary for the month of December within the various appropriations for the 2015-2016 school year as shown on the annexed report.

R3.3**RESOLUTION****INTRODUCED BY:** Mr. Lewis**SECONDED BY:** Mrs. Pantoliano

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 Interim School Business Administrator for the month(s) of December 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.

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R3.4

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: **Mr. Lewis**

SECONDED BY: **Mrs. Pantoliano**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby authorizes, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools, the out of district travel for employees as annexed to this resolution.

Employee Name	Date(s) of Event	Title of Event	Location	Registration Fee	Estimated Tolls and Mileage	Total Cost
K. Gerbasio	4/7/2016	Psychopharmacology	Hasbrouck Heights	\$199.99	6.3 mi X .31= 1.95	\$201.94
M. DeGennaro	4/21/2016	Strenthening Your World Language	Fairfield	\$239.00		\$239.00
S. Conforti	4/21/2016	Strenthening Your World Language	Fairfield	\$239.00	19 mi X .31 =5.89	\$244.89
C. Namendorf	3/9/2016	Dispelling Myths About Teaching English Learners	Woodbridge	\$0.00	34 mi X .31	\$10.54
G. Cruzado	3/9/2016	Dispelling Myths About Teaching English Learners	Woodbridge	\$0.00		
K. Backiel	3/8/2016	PARCC	Monroe	\$0.00	State Mandated	\$0.00
Z.Couto	3/8/2016	PARCC	Monroe	\$0.00	State Mandated	\$0.00

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R3.5

ESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Mr. Lewis

SECONDED BY: Mrs. Pantoliano

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 2015-2016 school year for:

Student ID#15631 A. Harry Moore Feb-June 2016 \$ 29817.45

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

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Lance Bartletta	X			
Joan Cali	X			
John Gerbasio	X		R3.4	
Louis Giele	X			
Norma Hanley	X			
Joseph Lewis	X			
John McStowe	X			
Kathy O'Connell	X			
Ruby Pantoliano	X			

4. Safety, Security Buildings & Grounds

Mrs. Pantoliano reported: Meeting held February 18, 2016 no action to be taken at this time.

5. Technology

Mr. Giele reported: Mr. Rene Toledo's last date of employment is March 20, and that interviews for his replacement are currently underway.

6. Policy

R6.1

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Ms. Cali

SECONDED BY: Mr. Lewis

BE IT RESOLVED that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves the second reading of the following policies:

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3127A Employment Orientation (employee identification/access cards)

5514 Pupil Use of Vehicles (hover boards)

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

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

7. Athletic Liaison Mr. Bartletta stated no report at this time.

8. Shared Services Meeting to be scheduled for March

9. Old Business – Reschedule special meeting (JSA forum) which was originally proposed for February 18, 2016.

10. New Business- Tabled

Public General Comments

Mr. Richard Pobuto, 292 Julianne Terrace. Mr. Pobuto stated he was a graduate student and that as part of his studies, he was to attend a board meeting. Having just moved to Secaucus, he had a few questions concerning the school district (he is currently an elementary teacher in Elizabeth). Mr. Pobuto inquired as to the level of technology is present in the schools. Mrs. Wilhelm responded that all schools have wi-fi, and that many of the students have chrome books. Each year we buy additional books. Mr. McStowe pointed out that Elizabeth is much larger with greater revenue, therefore, we can only do so much each year. Mr. Pobuto posed the question, what is the strength of Secaucus School District. Mr. Knops responded that in his short time within the district, he would say that community is our strength. We have the full support and cooperation of the Mayor, Town Council, PTA's and school organizations.

Board Member Comments

Norma Hanley announced that the Community Relations Committee has been established and would have their first meeting on Wednesday, March 16, 2016 at 7pm in the Huber Street Library.

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RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Mr. McStowe

SECONDED BY: Ms. Cali

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 adjourn to Closed Executive Session on this date at 8:15PM, 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:

- ___ 1. Confidential Matters per Statue or Court Order
- ___ 2. Impact Rights to Receive Federal Funds
- ___ 3. Unwarranted Invasion of Individual Privacy
- ___ 4. Collective Bargaining
- ___ 5. Acquisition of Real Property or Investment of Funds
- ___ 6. Public Safety Procedures
- ___ 7. Litigation or Contract Matters or Attorney/Client Privilege
- ___ 8. Personnel Matters
- ___ 9. Imposition of Penalties upon an Individual

Board Members present unanimously adopted the foregoing Resolution.

Motion by Mr. McStowe, seconded by Mr. Lewis and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to adjourn Executive Session and resume Regular Meeting at 8:59PM.

S1.0

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Mr. McStowe

SECONDED BY: Mr. Lewis

BE IT RESOLVED that the Secaucus Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") has conducted a hearing on an appeal of a finding of Harassment Intimidation and Bullying (hereinafter referred to as "HIB") involving a student whose name is on file with the Superintendent and hereby

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reverses the HIB finding, affirms the code of conduct violation and the consequences that have already been served.

Motion by Ms. O'Connell, seconded by Ms. Cali, and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:02PM

Respectfully submitted,

Edward J. Appleton,
Interim Board Secretary and
Business Administrator