

SECAUCUS BOARD OF EDUCATION  
 BOARD MEETING REGULAR MINUTES  
 DATED: NOVEMBER 19, 2015

President Gerbasio called the meeting to order at 5PM and roll call taken as follows:

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

ABSENT: Mr. Bartletta and Ms. D'Addetta

LATE ARRIVALS:

President Gerbasio declared a quorum present

Also present: Robert Presuto, CSA  
 Francelis De Oca Montes  
 Edward J. Appleton, Interim BA  
 Stephen Fogarty, Esq.

Vice President Lewis, 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 Lewis, 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. 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 5:08PM in order to discuss personnel.

Board Members present unanimously adopted the foregoing Resolution.

Motion by Mr. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Anderson, and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to adjourn Executive Session and resume Regular Meeting at 7:04PM.

Upon re-entering the Regular Meeting, Mr. Gerbasio requested that a moment of silence be observed for the victims and families of the terrorist attack on Paris, France.

Motion by Mr. Lewis, seconded by Ms. O'Connell and unanimously adopted by board members present to accept and approve the October 22, 2015 Regular board meeting minutes, and Special board meeting minutes of November 10, 2015.

**Organization Reports:**

Mr. Robert Valente, Middle School Principal, reported on the activities which have taken place since the October 22<sup>nd</sup> including the successful Veteran's Day Assembly. He extended to Mr. Presuto, congratulations and good wishes, as well as a Happy Thanksgiving to all.

Dr. Robert Berckes, High School Principal, also reported on the activities which have taken place since the last board meeting. Dr. Berckes also announced that Teacher of Year is Michael Vitulano, and Kathy Gerbasio the Service Professional. Don't forget to come out for the annual

Lip Sync contest. The results of this evening's Powder Puff was the Junior/Seniors 13-0. He also extended to Mr. Presuto, congratulations in his new district, and Happy Thanksgiving to all.

Steve Viggiano, Clarendon Principal, announced that Clarendon's newspaper is back and the first edition was released. The Bucket Challenge is also underway. The challenge is based on good character and showing respect and nominating a student by dropping the name in the bucket. Mr. Viggiano extended his good wishes to Mr. Presuto and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Dr. Tom Tufaro, Acting Huber Street Principal, also provided the numerous activities taking place including a very successful Halloween Parade. The PTA Tricky Tray, which is sold out, will take place on November 20, 2015. Dr. Tufaro wished the best of luck to Mr. Presuto and Happy Thanksgiving to all.

### **Superintendent Report:**

Recommended action on resolutions and motions to be presented under Committee Reports. Mr. Presuto presented the Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying (HIB) findings as reported for the period October 20, 2015 to November 17, 2015

Motion by Mr. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Anderson and unanimously adopted by Board Members to accept the HIB findings, as reported by the Superintendent, and available at the Administrative Offices for review.

Mr. Presuto announced that PARCC overview from the State's perspective was now available and the district was still analyzing the results. However, Dr. Tufaro will be providing a brief overview at the end of this report.

Mr. Presuto, who is leaving the district as of November 30, addressed the board members to thank them for giving him his first shot as a Superintendent. The Secaucus Community is wonderful, from the Mayor and Town Council, to the teachers and staff, but most of all the great kids who attend our schools. He thanked the parents as well. He sincerely is thankful for the time spent in Secaucus.

### **Presentation of PARCC**

Dr. Tufaro provided a brief overview of PARCC-how it came to be. Further, the purpose of the testing is to ensure our students are college ready, and or work ready. The testing will be taking place over the next two years before the data collected will be meaningful to parents, educator's and teachers.

### **Business Administrator/Board Secretary Report:**

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

**Public Agenda Comments:** None

## **Committee Reports and New Business**

### **1. School Government**

**R1.1**

#### **RESOLUTION**

**INTRODUCED BY:**                 **John McStowe**

**SECONDED BY:**                 **Joseph Lewis**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby appoint the following individual, as recommended by the Superintendent: Santos Smith as a translator for 2/hrs a day as per student IEP requirements for the 2015-16/SY at \$16/hr beginning November 20, 2015.

**R1.2****RESOLUTION****INTRODUCED BY: John McStowe****SECONDED BY: Joseph Lewis**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, following Per Diem position for the 2015-2016/SY:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Melissa Morano	Bus Aide	\$11.90/hour

**R1.3****RESOLUTION****INTRODUCED BY: John McStowe****SECONDED BY: Joseph Lewis**

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Per Diem Position</u>	<u>Certification</u>	<u>Compensation</u>
Iviahoca M. Pimental	Substitute School Nurse	Substitute School Nurse	\$150/day
Roy Hinchman	Substitute Teacher	Standard Certificate Teacher of Driver Education & Standard Certificate Teacher of Health & Physical	Days 1-41 \$90/day Day 42+ \$105
Andrea Innis	Substitute Teacher	Substitute Teacher	Days 1-41 \$85/day Day 42+ \$105

**R1.4****RESOLUTION****INTRODUCED BY: John McStowe****SECONDED BY: Joseph Lewis**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves, at the recommendation of the Superintendent transfer the following individual:

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Current School</u>	<u>New Location</u>
Susan Kellenberger	Early Learning Centert	Middle/High School

**R1.5****RESOLUTION****INTRODUCED BY: John McStowe****SECONDED BY: Joseph Lewis**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves the following co-curricular positions for the school year 2015-2016:

Name	Position	Stipend
Zachary Schlemm	BASKETBALL – ASST COACH	\$3,590
Andrea Innis	BASKETBALL – ASST COACH	\$3,590*
Shannon Waters	BASKETBALL – ASST COACH	\$3,590*
Christopher Panepinto	CROSS COUNTRY	PRO BONO

\*Shared

**R1.6**

**RESOLUTION**

**INTRODUCED BY:** John McStowe

**SECONDED BY:** Joseph Lewis

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby accepts the extension of retroactive unpaid Medical Leave beginning November 9, 2015

Name	Position	School	Beginning	Expected RTW
Joseph LaBianco	Custodian	High School	11/9/15	TBD

**R1.7**

**RESOLUTION**

**INTRODUCED BY:** John McStowe

**SECONDED BY:** Joseph Lewis

**BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Secaucus Board of Education does hereby approve t to accept maternity/bonding/FMLA request for

Name	Position	School	Leave Date	Expected RTW
Allison Urbanovich	Social Studies	High School	2/22/16	9/1/16

**R1.8**

**RESOLUTION**

**INTRODUCED BY:** John McStowe

**SECONDED BY:** Joseph Lewis

**BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Secaucus Board of Education does hereby approve t to accept maternity/bonding request for

Name	Position	School	Leave Date	Expected RTW
Laura Sprow	Social Worker	Clarendon	3/14/16	9/1/16

**R1.9**

**RESOLUTION**

**INTRODUCED BY:**                 **John McStowe**

**SECONDED BY:**                 **Joseph Lewis**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Secaucus Board of Education does hereby approves to pay additional compensation to pay Danielle Giunta for Math Workshop preparation and training provided on 10/12/15 total compensation \$400.

**R1.10**

**RESOLUTION**

**INTRODUCED BY:**                 **John McStowe**

**SECONDED BY:**                 **Joseph Lewis**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Secaucus Board of Education does hereby approves to pay the following teachers for turnkey training provided on 9/9/15 and 9/10/15 for a total of 2.5 hours at \$100 each:

Helen Allen	Kerri Korycinski
Nicole Bonito	Laurie Michaels
Stephanie Forgacz	Anna Mongiello
Alyssa Grosso	Kelly Oconnor
Jolanda Harrsch	Lacey Rozansky
Sharon Holsten	Orietta Tringali
Lisa Jaramillo	

**R1.11**

**RESOLUTION**

**INTRODUCED BY:**                 **John McStowe**

**SECONDED BY:**                 **Joseph Lewis**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Secaucus Board of Education does hereby approves to pay additional compensation to pay Susan Redvanly and Joanie Niemiera an additional 10/hrs compensation totaling \$400 each for Summer Curriculum Writing

**M1.1 Motion to** accept with regret, the resignation of Charles Pulvino, Middle/High School Physical Education Teacher retroactive to 11/1/15.

- M1.2 Motion to** post for the following:
- LTR High School Social Studies Teacher (A. Urbanovich)
  - Chemical Hygienist Officer
  - Co-curricular spring coaching positions for 2015-2016/SY
  - Post for 12 teachers for Title 1 Funded Supplemental Support Program at Huber Street

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

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Robert Anderson	X			
Lance Bartletta				X
Kelli D'Addetta				X
John Gerbasio	X			
Norma Hanley	X			
Joseph Lewis	X			
John McStowe	X			
Kathy O'Connell	X			
Ruby Pantoliano	X			

**2. Curriculum**

**R2.1**

**RESOLUTION**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Robert Anderson

**SECONDED BY:** Joseph Lewis

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

**R2.2**

**RESOLUTION**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Robert Anderson

**SECONDED BY:** Joseph Lewis

**BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, to utilize Predictive Assessment for Reading (PAR) as the district dyslexia screening tool.

**R2.3**

**RESOLUTION**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Robert Anderson

**SECONDED BY:** Joseph Lewis

**BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Secaucus Board of Education herby accepts the 2014-2015 District Nursing Plan as submitted to County Executive.

**R2.4**

**RESOLUTION**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Robert Anderson

**SECONDED BY:** Joseph Lewis

**BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, approves the implement a Supplemental Support Winter-Spring Program at Huber Street School.

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

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Robert Anderson	X			
Lance Bartletta				X
Kelli D'Addetta				X
John Gerbasio	X		R2.3	
Norma Hanley	X			
Joseph Lewis	X			
John McStowe	X			
Kathy O'Connell	X			
Ruby Pantoliano	X			

### **3. Finance**

#### **R3.1**

#### **RESOLUTION**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Joseph Lewis

**SECONDED BY:** Kathy O'Connell

**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 \$4,607,533.60.

#### **R3.2**

#### **RESOLUTION**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Joseph Lewis

**SECONDED BY:** Kathy O'Connell

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

#### **R3.3**

#### **RESOLUTION**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Joseph Lewis

**SECONDED BY:** Kathy O'Connell

**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 September 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.

**R3.4****RESOLUTION****INTRODUCED BY: Joseph Lewis****SECONDED BY: Kathy O'Connell**

**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
A. Grecco	12/1/2015	Federal Family Leave Laws	Toms River	\$50.00	135.2 @ .31=\$41.90 tolls 20.	\$111.90
F.Montes de Oca	12/1/2015	Federal Family Leave Laws	Toms River	\$50.00		\$50.00
C. Candela	11/19/2015	Empowering Writers'	Parsippany	\$0.00	20 @ .31 =\$6.2	\$6.20

**R3.5****RESOLUTION****INTRODUCED BY: Joseph Lewis****SECONDED BY: Kathy O'Connell**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby authorizes the Interim Business Administrator to execute the Agreement for Bilingual Psychological and Speech Evaluations School Based Speech Therapy Services with Kid Clan Services, Inc, located at Center for Learning and Neurodevelopment, 340 Main Avenue, Clifton, NJ 07014 effective September 1, 2015 to through June 30, 2016 at a rate of \$400/per evaluation.

**R3.6****RESOLUTION****INTRODUCED BY: Joseph Lewis****SECONDED BY: Kathy O'Connell**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby authorizes the Interim Business Administrator to renew the contracts with Trinitas for Occupational/Physical Therapy for students effective November 14, 2015 through June 30, 2015 at a rate of \$84.75/hour.

**R3.7****RESOLUTION****INTRODUCED BY: Joseph Lewis****SECONDED BY: Kathy O'Connell**



**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby authorizes the Interim Business Administrator to execute the Agreement to provide School-to-Career Transition Services for two students with Spectrum Works, Inc., located at 100 Dorigo Lane, Secaucus, NJ 07094 effective September 15, 2015 to through June 30, 2016 at a rate of \$32/hr.

**R3.8**

**RESOLUTION**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Joseph Lewis

**SECONDED BY:** Kathy O’Connell

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby authorizes the Interim Business Administrator to execute a Hosting & Maintenance Agreement to provide Predictive Assessment for Reading (PAR) as the districts dyslexia screening tool with Red-e Set Grow, LLC, located at 3562 Spangenberg Avenue, P.O. Box 1674, Clemmons, NC 27012 effective November 2, 2015 at total cost of \$3,180

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

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Robert Anderson	X			
Lance Bartletta				X
Kelli D’Addetta				X
John Gerbasio	X			
Norma Hanley	X			
Joseph Lewis	X			
John McStowe	X			
Kathy O’Connell	X			
Ruby Pantoliano	X			

**4. Safety, Security Buildings & Grounds**  
Meeting held November 10, 2015 – no action at this time

**5. Technology**  
No action at this time

**6. Policy**

**R6.1**

**RESOLUTION**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Kathy O’Connell

**SECONDED BY:** Nora Hanley

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby adopts, as recommended by the Superintendent the second reading of policy 8601, Pupil Supervision After School Dismissal.

## R6.2

## RESOLUTION

**INTRODUCED BY:** Kathy O'Connell

**SECONDED BY:** Norma Hanley

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby adopts, as recommended by the Superintendent, the first reading of the following policies:

- 5517 Student Identification Cards
- 6620 Petty Cash
- 6660 Student Activity Accounts

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

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Robert Anderson	X			
Lance Bartletta				X
Kelli D'Addetta				X
John Gerbasio	X			
Norma Hanley	X			
Joseph Lewis	X			
John McStowe	X			
Kathy O'Connell	X			
Ruby Pantoliano	X			

**7. Athletic Liaison**

Mrs. Pantoliano provided an update to the standings of individuals and/or teams for the fall sports programs.

**8. Shared Services**

No Action at this time

**9. New Business** - None

**Public General Comments**

Mrs. Nancy Moreno -835 Roosevelt Avenue. Mrs. Moreno explained that she has four children within the district. Her youngest child is experiencing difficulty with the new math curriculum, and it is a struggle when a parent witnesses their child's despair, but also in not able to help them. Mrs. Moreno is requesting that schools provide additional support to parents with this new math through communicating with information sent home. Ideally, if the schools could provide on-site training maybe two or three times a month so that parents could learn the new curriculum. Both Mr. Viggiani and Ms. Diemer responded to Mrs. Moreno's request. Both explained that last year the school did provide assistance to the parents, and were in fact developing a similar program for this year to be conducted in the very near future. Mr. Viggiani and Dr. Tufaro (Director of Technology) are also working to develop information and assistance through the website. Unfortunately, the logistics to prepare and deliver involve the teaching staff and budgeting (this would be a non-budgeted expense), but be assured we are doing everything possible to provide this to the parents as soon as possible.

Linda Diemer – Director of Curriculum and Instruction proudly announced that her sister Judy Diemer Rattmer was named Superintendent of the State of New Jersey, and is going on to the national competition. If she is named the national superintendent, the Secaucus school district will be the recipient of a \$10,000 scholarship! Go Judy!!!!

**Board Member Comments**

All of the Board Members made brief statements wishing the best to Mr. Presuto in his new endeavor as well as extending Happy Thanksgiving wishes to everyone.

Mr. McStowe also provided a brief update on the construction up at the High School. He also loved the Halloween parade and dance in the gym at Huber Street School, it was just so much fun to watch.

Mrs. Hanley congratulated Mr. Vitulano and Mrs. Gerbasio on their teacher of the year and service professional award respectively. Ms. O'Connell also expressed her congratulation to Mr. Vitulano and Mrs. Gerbasio.

Mr. Gerbasio announced that there would be a Special Meeting on Tuesday, November 24, 2015 at 3pm in the Administrative Offices and that action will be taken. In addition, Mr. Gerbasio expressed his thanks and appreciation for the Veteran's Assembly recently held at the PAC. It was outstanding.

Motion by, Mr. McStowe, seconded by Ms. O'Connell, and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:00pm

Respectfully submitted,

Edward J. Appleton,  
Interim Business Administrator, and  
Board Secretary