

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
November 18, 2020
7:30 p.m. Virtual (link on website)**

***I. CALL TO ORDER – OPENING STATEMENT**

This meeting was called to order at 7:34 p.m. with the following opening statement read by Mr. Keiser:

“I would like to announce and have placed in the minutes that adequate notice of this meeting of the Califon Board of Education has been provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Proper notice of this Regular Meeting was provided to Hunterdon County Democrat, Hunterdon Review and The Express Times. A copy of this notice has also been posted on the public bulletin board in the Municipal Building and filed with the Borough Clerk. The agenda of this meeting has been posted at the Califon School and on the district’s website.

***II. THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

***III. ROLL CALL**

Roll call was taken by Ms. Zarra as follows:

Mr. Christopher Keiser - President	Present - Remote
Mr. Michael Reaves - Vice President	Present - Remote
Ms. Rebecca Kipp-Newbold	Present - Remote
Ms. Rita Lemley	Present - Remote
Mr. Netz Sacro	Present - Remote

Also present

Dr. Michele Cone, Superintendent	Present - Remote
Ms. Cheryl Zarra, Business Administrator	Present - Remote

***IV. PUBLIC COMMENT (resolutions only; time limits: 3 min. /person)**

At this time, comment is invited on any matter relating to the resolutions on tonight’s agenda.

Anyone wishing to speak before the Board concerning these resolutions may do so during this public commentary portion of the agenda. The presenter shall give his/her name and address and make the presentation as brief as possible. Unless an extension of time is given, each speaker shall be limited to 3 minutes.

Speakers may offer suggestions or express their concerns. However, in public session, the Board will not discuss concerns about individual students or staff members. Other, more appropriate, channels are available for expressing concerns about individual students or staff members.

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Written comments may be submitted in writing prior to the meeting via email to boardsecretary@califonschool.org or via mail to Califon Public School, 6 School Street, Califon, NJ 07830. Correspondence must be received no later than 12:00 noon on the day of the meeting.

Both written and verbal comments must adhere to the 3 minute rule. Written correspondence will be read aloud until the time limit has been reached.

Duplicate comments will not be read but will be noted during the meeting.

The Board President may terminate the remarks of any individual, when they do not adhere to the rules established above.

None

***V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Motion by Mr. Reaves and seconded by Mrs Lemley to approve the October 21, 2020 Regular and Executive session minutes.

***VI. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

- Correspondence from Mrs. Cerniglia - Agreement with Lebanon Township

***VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Cone shared the following updates:

- **Statement of Assurance** - Safety policies and practices were reviewed with the police and will be submitted to the Department of Education.
- **Strategic Planning Dates** - Remote interactive meetings to plan the vision for the next five years. Led by Gwen Thornton of NJ School Boards.
 - December 7, January 11, February 1
- **PTA Bagel Lunches** - Thank you to the PTA for offering weekly Bagel Lunches to those students who signed up. A big hit with the kids.
- **HIB Report** - nothing to report
- **Enrollment 90**

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***VIII. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Curriculum & Instruction Committee: Did not meet

Policy & Legislation Committee: Met and reviewed policies for Gifted and Talented and Virtual Meetings.

Finance, Facilities, & Transportation Committee: Met and discussed Security Grant application and upgrades.

Personnel Committee: Did not meet

Negotiations Committee: Teachers reached out to restart negotiations.

Long Range Planning, Shared Services - Did not meet

Steering Committee: To be removed from next agenda.

***IX. CONSENT AGENDA**

Matters listed within the consent agenda have been referred to members of the Board of Education and/or its standing committees, for reading and study and will be enacted with one motion. The Personnel items on the consent agenda are recommended by the Superintendent. If separate discussion is desired, the item may be removed from the consent agenda by Board action.

Motion made by Mr. Keiser and seconded by Mrs. Lemley to discuss the Consent Agenda.

Motion approved on unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Keiser asked if Mrs. Fortunato has educational experience.

- Dr. Cone noted that Mrs. Fortunato is in the education field.

Mrs. Kipp-Newbold asked for an explanation of the drills.

- Dr. Cone explained how the drills are being conducted.

Motion made by Mr. Keiser and seconded by Mrs. Kipp-Newbold to approve the consent agenda.

Motion approved on unanimous roll call vote.

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Finance/Facilities/Transportation/Personnel

Finance:

1. Motion to approve the bills list dated October 22, 2020 through November 18, 2020 in the amount of \$219,774.23.
2. Motion to accept, certify and file the Treasurer’s and Board Secretary report for October 2020 and note that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligation and that no major account has been over-expended in accordance with N.J.A.C 6A:23A:16.20.
3. Motion to approve the transfers for October 2020.
4. Motion to approve the submission of the School Security Grant Application and acceptance of award funds up to \$20,000 for security upgrades with acknowledgement that sufficient district funds are available to be utilized to cover costs exceeding the district’s grant allowance.
5. Motion to approve utilizing the balance of funds raised for the 2019/2020 D.C. Trip for the 8th Grade Class of 2021.
6. Motion to approve an agreement with New Jersey School Boards for Strategic Planning services for the 2020-2021 school year in the amount of \$4,000.

Transportation:

Facilities:

1. Motion to approve documentation of mandated Security/Fire/Emergency and Evacuation Drills

Date of Drill	Type of Drill
October 19, 2020	Phase 1 Fire Drill
October 20, 2020	Phase 2 Fire Drill
October 22, 2020	Evacuation Drill
November 11, 2020	Communication Alert Drill

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2. Motion to approve the Statement of Assurance for the Califon School Safety and Security Plan.

Personnel:

1. Motion to approve the following Substitute Teacher for the 2020-2021 school year.
 - Gayle Fortunato

C. Curriculum and Instruction

1. Motion to approve the following travel expenditures for staff members or their designated alternate to attend professional development conferences / workshops. This travel is deemed educationally necessary and fiscally prudent. All travel expenditures shall be directly related to and within the scope of the staff member's current responsibilities and professional development plans.

Name	Date	Workshop/Conference	Fee/Mileage
Christine Sullivan	12/3/20	Rutgers University Behavioral Health	\$49.00

2. Motion to accept the Health Report for October 2020.

X . POLICY

Mr. Keiser read the motions. Mrs. Kipp-Newbold explained the policy in motion number one and Dr. Cone explained the policy in motion number two.

Motion made by Mr. Reaves and seconded by Mrs. Lemley to approve the motions under Policy.

Motion approved on unanimous roll call vote.

1. Move the Board of Education suspend Bylaw 0131 that requires two readings to adopt a Bylaw or Policy and adopt Bylaw 0164.6 (M) with one reading to be in compliance with the new emergency regulations regarding remote meetings held during a Governor-declared emergency, N.J.A.C. 5:39-1.1 through 1.7, promulgated by Department of Community Affairs.

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2. Motion to approve Califon Public School District second reading for the following policy:

- Policy 2464 Gifted and Talented (M)

***XI. OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Reaves asked for an update on the fence. Mrs. Zarra noted that she is waiting for the picture and site plan mock up to submit. Mr. Reaves will forward the documents.

***XIII. NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Keiser noted the new crosswalk from the back parking lot to the playground.

***XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT (all school-related topics; 3 min. /person)**

At this time, comment is invited on any matter relating to the school district.

Anyone wishing to speak before the board may do so during the public comment portion of the agenda. The presenter shall give his/her name and address and make the presentation as brief as possible. Unless an extension of time is given, each speaker shall be limited to 3 minutes.

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Cathy Smith - asked if the Strategic Planning is routine or if it is for a specific purpose.

- Dr. Cone noted that it is done on a regular basis. Encouraging community involvement to help identify goals for the direction of the school academically. A committee is developed to work towards the goals. The plan is a living document.

Cathy Smith - asked if it is a continuation of the Steering Committee?

- Mr. Keiser - No it is not. It is to advance the school in the right direction academically.

Kristen Meiser - asked if there has been dialog for teachers on shutting down. Concerned for preparedness.

- Mr. Keiser - Califon was ahead of the curve and very prepared for the shutdown last year.
- Dr. Cone - Teachers have been preparing for the “what if.” There will be a structured schedule. Early dismissal schedule will be followed. Kindergarten will have 2 ½ hrs of

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instruction and Grades 1 - 8 will have 4 hour of instruction. All will have additional work offline.

***XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION - None**

***XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Mr. Keiser, seconded by Mr. Reaves to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 pm.

Motion approved on a unanimous roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted

Cheryl Zarra
Board Secretary