

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
April 29, 2015 7:30 p.m.**

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

This meeting is called to order at 7:30 p.m. with the following opening statement read by President Ramarge:

“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 in the notice dated June 24, 2014. Said notice was posted at the office of the Califon School, mailed to the Hunterdon County Democrat, the 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**

All present participated in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**\*III. ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Mr. Robert Beers  
Mr. Jim Bell  
Mrs. Claudia Gangemi  
Mr. Kim Schundler  
Mr. Matthew Ramarge

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Dr. James Gamble, Interim Superintendent  
Mr. Thomas Johnston, Board Secretary

Members of the Public

**\*IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. A motion was made by Mr. Bell and seconded by Mr. Ramarge to approve the following minutes. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

March 18, 2015 Regular Meeting  
March 18, 2015 Executive Session

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**\*V. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS - NONE**

**\*VI. INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

\*1. Superintendent Transition Update

Dr. Gamble mentioned the “Meet and Greet” that was held prior to the Board meeting. He said Jason Kornegay has met with the faculty, the Council of Instruction, and the administration. Dr. Gamble stressed that it so far has been a seamless progression.

\*2. HIB Report - NONE

\*3. Recognition of Patricia Johnston upon her selection as a Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) Teacher Leader.

Dr. Gamble noted that Mrs. Johnston is one of only nineteen science teachers in New Jersey to receive this prestigious designation. He read a description of the Next Generation Science Standards Teacher Leader Program. He thanked Mrs. Johnston for her efforts, and said Califon School is proud to have recognized teachers like Mrs. Johnston.

\*4. Nomination of Abigail Flagler to the Califon Alumni Wall of Fame

Mrs. Gangemi presented former Califon student Abigail Flagler as the first member of the Alumni Wall of Fame. Miss Flagler graduated from Califon School in 2011, and is graduating from high school this spring. Mrs. Gangemi read the list of Miss Flagler’s many accomplishments and honors. Dr. Gamble presented Miss Flagler a certificate, and Miss Flagler expressed her appreciation for the honor. Mrs. Gangemi pointed out that the main goal of the Wall of Fame is to have Califon students see excellence in high school.

\*5. Recognition of the Destination Imagination Team

The “Swaggy Service” team is going to DI Globals in May. The team made a presentation. Dr. Gamble presented certificates to the team members. He also recognized Mrs. Beard and Stephanie Lima for their work with the DI team.

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\*6. Recognition of Kim Schundler for his 18 Years of service as a member of the Califon Board of Education.

Dr. Gamble presented the book, “Unbroken”, to be place in the school library in Mr. Schundler’s honor. He also presented a plaque to Mr. Schundler. Dr. Gamble stated that it is a sad day for Califon with Mr. Schundler stepping down from the Board. Dr. Gamble and all the members of the Board expressed their appreciation to Mr. Schundler for his eighteen years of service. A statement of appreciation was read on behalf of the faculty. Mr. Schundler spoke about his time on the Califon Board, and gave examples of what Califon School meant to his children. He stated that the teachers and administration make the difference. Mr. Schundler expressed his best wishes that Califon School will continue to strive.

\*7. Dr. Gamble mentioned that Technology Awareness Day is April 30<sup>th</sup>. He thanked Mr. Zimmerman for his efforts. Dr. Gamble pointed out the eighth graders will be making a presentation to the sixth and seventh graders about web design and coding, as well as a video presentation on cyber-bullying. There will also be a parent brochure on cyber-bullying.

**\*VII. PUBLIC COMMENT** (resolutions only; time limits: 20 min. total; 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.

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

There was no public comment at this time.

**\*VIII. BOARD SECRETARY/TREASURER’S REPORT**

After review of the Secretary’s and Treasurer’s reports for the month of **March 2015**, based upon consultation with the Board Secretary, the Board of Education of the  
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Borough of Califon has ascertained, to the best of our knowledge and ability, with the information provided, that no major account has been over-expended, that no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures which exceed the line item appropriation, and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year, and hereby certifies the district's financial plan as approved is being followed as revealed in the financial reports.

Mr. Johnston pointed out that the county, after days of review, approved the proposed 2015-2016 budget with flying colors.

**\*IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mrs. Gangemi reviewed the new math resources, Go Math and Glencoe. She also mentioned summer curriculum work. She said there are plans for a "Go Math" night for parents. Mrs. Gangemi said the teachers are excited for the program. She thanked the faculty, Dr. Gamble, and Mr. Patton.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Matters listed within the consent agenda designated by \*( **including Board Secretary and Treasurer Report**) has 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 Interim Superintendent. If separate discussion is desired, the item may be removed from the consent agenda by Board action.

**DESIGNATION OF OFFICAL BOARD MEETINGS**

\*1. A motion was made by Mrs. Gangemi and seconded by Mr. Beers to approve the attached Califon Board of Education 2015-2016 Meeting Schedule, which states:

"At the April 29, 2015 meeting of the Califon Board of Education, the Board designated its regular official meeting dates to be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Califon Public School, 6 School Street, Califon, New Jersey 07830, unless otherwise noted below, or when they conflict with legal holidays or school closings."

The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Action may or may not be taken at these meetings.

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An Executive Session may or may not be held at each meeting, and action may or may not be taken upon reconvening after adjournment of these closed sessions.

Special meeting of the Califon Board of Education will be advertised separately.

May 20, 2015	regular meeting	December 16, 2015	regular meeting
June 24, 2015	regular meeting	January 6, 2016	organization meeting
July 22, 2015	regular meeting	January 20, 2016	regular meeting
August 19, 2015	regular meeting	February 17, 2016	regular meeting
September 16, 2015	regular meeting	March 16, 2016	regular meeting
October 21, 2015	regular meeting	April 20, 2016	regular meeting
November 18, 2015	regular meeting	April 27, 2016	budget hearing

***A. Finance/Facilities/Transportation/Personnel***

***Finance:***

A motion was made by Mr. Bell and seconded by Mr. Ramarge to approve items one and two. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

March/April Bills List

- \*1. Motion to approve the payment of invoices from check number 21405 to check number 21430, checks 33015, and 41514, and non checks N1158, in the amount of \$220,661.15.

Health Care Adjustment

- \*2. Motion to approve the health care adjustment in the amount of \$20,826 in the 2015-2016 budget.

Mr. Bell and Mr. Ramarge asked what the adjustment represented. Mr. Johnston explained the adjustment.

A motion was made by Mr. Bell and seconded by Mr. Ramarge to approve item number three. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Grant Applications

- \*3. Motion to approve the submission of grant applications for the K-8 Bullying Prevention Program and for the Child Assault Prevention Program.

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2015-2016 Budget

- \*4. Please refer to the Public Hearing Agenda

***Facilities:***

A motion was made by Mrs. Gangemi and seconded by Mr. Beers to approve the following use of facilities. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

- \*1. Califon PTA Meeting                      8<sup>th</sup> Gr. Room                      05/18/2015                      7:00PM – 8:30PM

***Transportation: NONE***

***Personnel:***

A motion was made by Mr. Schundler and seconded by Mr. Bell to approve item number one. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

Head Custodian

- \*1. Upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, approval to hire Steven Weber as Head Custodian beginning July 1, 2015 at an annual salary of \$52,500, pending a mutual acceptance of the employment contract.

A motion was made by Mrs. Gangemi and seconded by Mr. Bell to approve items two and three. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Staff Resignation

- \*2. Motion to accept with regret the resignation of Mrs. Barbara Tiger.

Mr. Ramarge confirmed the Board accepts Mrs. Tiger's resignation with regret. Dr. Gamble pointed out her years of service to Califon and the many hats she wore.

Shared Services

- \*3. Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, approval of the Shared Service Agreement for the position of Superintendent.

***B. Curriculum and Instruction***

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A motion was made by Mr. Schundler and seconded by Mr. Beers to approve items one, two, and three. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Health Report

- \*1. Motion to approve the attached Health Report for March 2015.

Field Trips

- \*2. Motion to approve the following class trips.

RVCC Planetarium 6<sup>th</sup> Gr. 04/24/2015 10:00AM – 1:00PM no cost to Board

- \*3. RVCC Learning Through Experience Program Gr. 7 & 8 04/14/2015  
8:00AM – 1:00PM no cost to Board

A motion was made by Mr. Schundler and seconded by Mr. Beers to approve item number four. The motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.

- \*4. Junior Solar Sprints Kingwood School 05/15/2015 7:30AM – 2:00PM  
Transportation Cost: \$382.50 (to be split 50/50 with Clinton Public School)

A motion was made by Mr. Bell and seconded by Mr. Ramarge to approve item number five. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Math Resources

- \*5. Approval to accept the recommendation of the Califon Public School's Council of Instruction to adopt the "Go Math" materials for grades K-8, and the Glencoe pre-algebra and algebra materials.

A motion was made by Mr. Schundler and seconded by Mr. Beers to approve item number six. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

Destination Imagination

- \*6. Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, approval to pay the expenses of one Califon Public School staff member for the Destination Imagination Global event, and up to \$1,000, if needed, to meet the overall Destination Imagination Team expenses for the Global event.

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Mr. Beers noted that he was for the resolution, and he suggested that money be budgeted for Globals going forward. Mr. Ramarge noted the DI teams are pretty well prepared, and that the success in DI is a selling point for the Califon School.

A motion was made by Mr. Beers and seconded by Mrs. Gangemi to approve item number seven. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

Stipends

\*7. Motion to approve the following stipends.

Stephanie Lima	Destination Imagination Coach	\$800
Erika Witkowski	Reading Olympics Advisor	\$500
Lisa Kooger	Reading Olympics Advisor	\$500

A motion was made by Mrs. Gangemi and seconded by Mr. Bell to approve item number eight. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Curriculum

\*8. Upon the recommendation of the Council of Instruction, approval of the updated five year curriculum renewal plan.

Dr. Gamble highlighted the changes. He said the plan will expand to 2019-2020.

A motion was made by Mr. Bell and seconded by Mr. Ramarge to approve item number nine. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

Course Reimbursement

\*9. Motion to approve the following course reimbursement in accordance with article XIII of the 2012-2015 Negotiated Agreement.

M. Zimmerman GED658N Social Issues for Children w/ Special Needs \$1,230 Summer 2015

***C. Policy***

- Policy book update



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Mr. Bell presented the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading, File Code: 5339, Learning Differences and Early Screening. Mrs Gangemi asked if a child needs screening, is it budgeted for. Dr. Gamble replied the State does not mandate screening, and there are screenings available at no cost.

A motion was made by Mr. Schundler and seconded by Mr. Beers to approve inclusion in the Policy Guide of File Code: 5339, Learning Differences and Early Screening. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

***D. Communications - NONE***

**\*X. OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Bell asked if any of the trophies in the eighth grade room could be transferred to the trophy case in the hallway. Dr. Gamble said that should not be a problem.

**\*XI. NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Beers said that since a new Special Education teacher will be hired, there should be some sort of audit going forward to ensure the needs of the students are being met. He pointed out that this area hits close to home. Mr. Beers stressed this was imperative moving forward.

**\*X11. PUBLIC COMMENT (all school-related topics; time limits: 30 min. total; 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 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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The Board President may terminate the remarks of any individual, when they do not adhere to the rules established above.

The Destination Imagination Team thanked the Board for the opportunity to do their presentation, and for the \$1,000. Mrs. Beard thanked the Board for supporting Destination Imagination. She mentioned that she has heard nothing but good news about the World Language Academy. Mr. Bell said he was glad they took the initiative. Mr. Beard thanked the Board for supporting Destination Imagination, and Mr. Schundler for his many years of service on the Board.

**\*XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Mrs. Gangemi and seconded by Mr. Ramarge to approve the following resolution. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

WHEREAS, Section 6 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 (R.S. 10:4-13), permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting or portion of a meeting of this public body in certain circumstances and

WHEREAS, the Board must consider (see check below), which is/are exempt from public discussion pursuant to the Act;

- 1. Matter which by express provision of law is rendered confidential
- 2. Release of information which would impair receipt of federal funds
- 3. Individual Privacy/ Student Matters
- 4. Collective Bargaining/Negotiations
- 5. Real estate matters
- 6. Disclosure could impair public safety
- 7. Pending/Anticipated Litigation
- 8. Terms and conditions of employment
- 9. Deliberations involving imposition of specific civil penalty.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education adjourn to executive session at 8:49 p.m. to discuss the above-mentioned matters to the exclusion of all others. Matters discussed may or may not be made public this evening. Resulting action may or may not be taken following re-entry into regular session

**\*XIV. RECONVENE**

A motion was made by Mr. Ramarge and seconded by Mr. Bell to reconvene into regular session at 10:15 p.m. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

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A motion was made by Mr. Ramarge and seconded by Mr. Bell to approve Jevan Furmanski to fill in the Board seat vacated by Mr. Schundler for the remainder of 2015. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**\*XV. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Mr. Ramarge and seconded by Mr. Bell to adjourn at 10:16 p.m. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.