

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 19, 2017 7:30 p.m.**

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

This meeting is called to order at 7:32 p.m. with the following opening statement read by President Cantagallo:

“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 April 28, 2016. 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: Mrs. Nina DeCoster
Dr. Jevan Furmanski (arrived at 7:37 p.m.)
Mr. Christopher Keiser
Mr. Terren Suydam
Mr. Mark Cantagallo

Members Absent: NONE

Also Present: Mr. Jason Kornegay, Superintendent
Mr. Thomas Johnston, Board Secretary
Member of the Public

***IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

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***V. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

*1. NJSDA ROD Grant Close-Out Letter

Mr. Kornegay stated the grant payment has been received. He added it is important to maintain a good relationship with the NJSDA. To that end, he will send an email of appreciation to the NJSDA for all their help during the grant process. He credited Mr. Johnston for his work throughout the grant process.

***VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

*1. Superintendent Update:

NJSBA Presentation:

Mr. Kornegay introduced Gwen Thornton from the NJSBA. Mrs. Thornton introduced herself and described her role with NJSBA. She proceeded with a ethics presentation for the Board, and answered all questions posed by Board members.

Facilities: NONE

Personnel: NONE

Curriculum and Instruction: NONE

Technology: NONE

HIB Report: NONE. Mr. Kornegay explained that, while there may be incidents between students, if they do not fit the State's strict definition of HIB, the incident will not be reported here.

***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

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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'S REPORT**

After review of the Board Secretary's reports for the month of March 2017, based upon consultation with the Board Secretary, the Board of Education of the 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 stated the budget is under County review and should be approved shortly. He added the County had no issue with the numbers; they just needed additional information and descriptions. The Public Hearing on the budget is April 26th. Mr. Johnston informed the Board that he officially received his Masters Degree in Educational Leadership from Thomas Edison State University, and that he has completed all requirements for BA certification. The Board applauded Mr. Johnston's achievement.

***IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Curriculum & Instruction Committee:

Dr. Furmanski reviewed the meeting with Mrs. DeCoster, himself, and Mr. Kornegay. The music curriculum was discussed. Mr. Keiser asked if this was the result of complaints. Mr. Kornegay replied it had to do with State requirements. Dr. Furmanski stated that performance is part of curriculum. Mr. Suydam asked if this was a self-

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assessment. Mr. Kornegay replied yes. He added they are looking at all specials curriculum. Dr. Furmanski discussed the timing and content of conferences. He pointed out the second conference is earlier in the semester. Mr. Kornegay stated the conferences can be moved after the calendar is approved. Dr. Furmanski talked about the effect of prospective enrollment on curriculum, and planning a study of grades with six or fewer students. Mr. Kornegay called it a feasibility study. He added the State can step in if enrollment is too low in their view, but they are hesitant to do so. He added the Board should be active in obtaining information. Mr. Cantagallo asked if this falls under the Long Range Planning committee. Mr. Kornegay said the study would be truly fact-finding. Mr. Cantagallo added the Board needs more information. Mr. Keiser said the quick drop in enrollment was unexpected. Dr. Furmanski stated the Board needs data to understand the challenges and there needs to be a sense of urgency. Mr. Kornegay said the numbers will be discussed. Mr. Keiser asked about a timeframe. Mr. Kornegay replied within three months. Mr. Suydam asked about other district's studies. Mr. Keiser asked if this could all snowball. Mr. Kornegay said there could be a concern about staff reaction. Mr. Cantagallo stated this is the next step of the process already talked about. Mr. Suydam asked if there was any precedent for willful misunderstanding. He also asked about the cost of a study. Mr. Kornegay pointed out there is a lot of data at the County DOE office. He brought up the option of reaching out to other districts to share the cost of a feasibility study.

Policy & Legislation Committee: NONE

Finance, Facilities, & Transportation Committee:

Mr. Cantagallo stated he and Mr. Keiser met with Mr. Kornegay and Mr. Johnston to discuss the budget, and that all the questions the committee had were answered.

Personnel Committee: NONE

Negotiations Committee: NONE

Long Range Planning, Shared Services, & School Choice Committee:

Mr. Cantagallo said this was covered in the Curriculum/Instruction Committee report.

Communications Committee:

Mr. Cantagallo informed the Board the next sending district meeting is May 1st.

CONSENT AGENDA

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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 Superintendent. If separate discussion is desired, the item may be removed from the consent agenda by Board action.

DESIGNATION OF OFFICIAL BOARD MEETINGS

*1. A motion was made by Mr. Keiser and seconded by Mrs. DeCoster to approve the attached Califon Board of Education 2017-2018 Meeting Schedule, which states:

“At the April 19, 2017 meeting of the Califon Board of Education, the Board designated its regular official meeting dates to be the 3rd 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”.

May 17, 2017	regular meeting	December 20, 2017	regular meeting
June 21, 2017	regular meeting	January 3, 2018	organizational meeting
July 2017	no regular meeting	January 17, 2018	regular meeting
August 16, 2017	regular meeting	February 21, 2018	regular meeting
September 20, 2017	regular meeting	March 21, 2018	regular meeting
October 18, 2017	regular meeting	April 18, 2018	regular meeting
November 15, 2017	regular meeting	April 25, 2018	budget hearing

Mr. Cantagallo recommended not having a Board meeting in July. The motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.

A. Finance/Facilities/Transportation/Personnel

Finance:

Mar-Apr Bills List

*1. A motion was made by Mr. Keiser and seconded by Mrs. DeCoster to approve the payment of invoices from check number 22587 thru check number 22627, and checks 33017 and 41517, and non-checks N1198 thru N1199, in the amount of \$260,308.35. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

Budget Transfers

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- *2. A motion was made by Mr. Keiser and seconded by Mrs. DeCoster to approve the attached budget transfers of \$8,729.56. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

Facilities:

Tree Removal

- *1. A motion was made by Mr. Keiser and seconded by Mrs. DeCoster to approve Smith's Tree Service for removal of the maple tree at the entrance to the front parking lot, including tree removal, stump grinding, and clean up, at a cost of \$1,600. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Kornegay stated two arborists and two other tree services examined the tree. The consensus is that the tree must come down primarily for safety reasons. Mr. Keiser the cost to sustain that tree is way above the cost to take it down. Mr. Kornegay said he will send a letter to the community.

Alarm System

- *2. A motion was made by Mr. Keiser and seconded by Mrs. DeCoster to approve Fire and Security Technologies (FAST) for providing and replacing the alarm control panel at a cost of \$6,350. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

Transportation: NONE

Personnel:

Substitute List

- *1. A motion was made by Mr. Keiser and seconded by Mrs. DeCoster to approve the addition of Lawrence Rothweiler to the Substitute Teacher List. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.
- *2. A motion was made by Mr. Keiser and seconded by Mrs. DeCoster to approve the addition of Bert Collins to the Substitute Custodian List. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

B. Curriculum and Instruction

Health Report

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- *1. A motion was made by Mr. Keiser and seconded by Mrs. DeCoster to accept the attached Health Report for March 2017. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

Field Trips

- *2. A motion was made by Mr. Keiser and seconded by Mrs. DeCoster to approve the following field trip. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

Grades K, 1, 2 RVCC Planetarium 05/18/17 9AM-2PM Cost to Board \$250 (transport)
Course Reimbursement

- *3. A motion was made by Mr. Keiser and seconded by Mrs. DeCoster to approve the following course reimbursement in accordance with Article XIII (2015-2018 Negotiated Agreement). The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

M. Zimmerman GED510WH Educational Administration Theory Summer 2017 \$1,326

2017-2018 Calendar

- *4. A motion was made by Mr. Keiser and seconded by Mrs. DeCoster to approve the 2017-2018 School Calendar. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote

*X. **OLD BUSINESS:** NONE

*XI. **NEW BUSINESS:** NONE

*XII. **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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There was no public comment at this time.

***XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION: NONE**

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 _____ 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: NONE**

***XV. ADJOURNMENT**

Being there no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Mr. Suydam and seconded by Mrs. DeCoster to adjourn at 9:25 p.m. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully,

Thomas Johnston
Board Secretary