

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
Special Meeting July 30, 2020  
**6:30 p.m. Virtual (link on website)**

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

The meeting was called to order at 6:36 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 the Hunterdon County Democrat. 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

Also present

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

**IV. 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.

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

None at this time

**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Motion made by Mr. Keiser and seconded by Mr. Reaves to approve the July 15, 2020 regular and executive session minutes.

Motion was approved on a unanimous roll call vote.

**VI. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

None

**VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Superintendent Update:  
Reopening Plan Presentation

Dr. Cone presented the Reopening Plan and indicated that the presentation will be posted on the district website and a parent survey will be going out to parents the next day.

1. Motion made by Mr. Keiser and seconded by Mr. Reaves to approve the Califon Public School Reopening Plan for the 2020-2021 school year.

Motion was approved on a unanimous roll call vote.

**VIII. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Curriculum & Instruction Committee: Did not meet.

Policy & Legislation Committee: Met to discuss the policy to be approved.

Finance, Facilities, & Transportation Committee: Did not meet.

Personnel Committee: Did not meet.

Negotiations Committee: Did not meet.

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Long Range Planning, Shared Services, & School Choice Committee: Did not meet.

Steering Committee: Did not meet.

**X. POLICY**

1. Motion made by Mr. Reaves and seconded by Mrs. Kipp-Newbold to approve Califon Public School District Policy 1648 - Restart and Recovery Plan on first reading.

Motion was approved on a unanimous roll call vote.

**XI. OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**XII. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Motion made by Mr. Keiser and seconded by Mr. Reaves to approve the submission of the Califon School District Reopening plan to the New Jersey Department of Education County Office.

Motion was approved on a unanimous roll call vote.

**XIII. 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 sessions, 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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Mr. Keiser reminded the audience that if they had a specific question about their child, to email Dr. Cone directly.

Carrie Springer asked if remote learning was going to be offered to PreK students.  
Dr. Cone responded that an offering is being worked out.

Anne Cusak asked about masks, the air system and referenced indoor dining.  
Dr. Cone responded that there will be periods of time for masks to be removed, our air filters have been cleaned, windows can be opened and air conditioners can be used. Finally, she spoke to the concern regarding indoor dining.

Stephanie Voorhees asked about our largest class size and whether Kindergarten would have group play.  
Dr. Cone spoke to her concern and noted safe practices would be employed.

Karen Rosenthal inquired about sports.  
Dr. Cone responded that they will be delayed at this time.

Erika Bergman offered her Thanks to everyone who worked so hard on the plan to reopen.

Kristi Meiser echoed Mrs. Bergman's comment. She is excited for the kids to start in person.

Mrs. Rosenthal offered her Thanks and stated that she is looking forward to working with Dr. Cone.

Cathay Smith commented that it is great to be a small school and that she appreciates the time and effort that went into this plan.

Caroline Rivera asked if parents would be informed if anyone at the school has covid and if parties could take place.  
Dr. Cone responded that a letter would go out and names withheld. A phone call would be placed if there was potential exposure. She also noted that no parties would take place at this time.

Mr. Keiser asked if the start of the year would be full or half days.  
Dr. Cone stated that the beginning of the school year would be early dismissal.

Dan Perez asked if after school information would be available.  
Dr. Cone noted that it will be a parent survey question and it will be assessed based on need.

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**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Mr. Keiser, seconded by Mr. Reaves to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 pm.

Motion approved on unanimous roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted

Cheryl Zarra  
Board Secretary