

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 17, 2013 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 Turello:

“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 May 1, 2013. 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**

Mr. Jim Bell
Ms. Laura Peterson
Mr. Matthew Ramarge
Mr. Kim Schundler
Mr. Alfred Turello

Absent: None

Also Present: Dr. James Gamble, Interim Superintendent
Miss Karen Perdomo, BA/BS

Members of the Public

***IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion to approve the following minutes was made by Ms. Peterson and seconded by Mr. Ramarge. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

November 20, 2013 Regular Meeting
November 20, 2013 Executive Session

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 17, 2013 7:30 p.m.**

***V. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

NHVRHS Meeting Schedule

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

***1. Review of District goals**

Enhance further perception- Dr. Gamble said we have put together 6 releases. He said Mr. Zimmerman will put the science and book fair releases on the website. He also said that we put another one out with Ms. Peterson's help. He said we had sent one out related to the Skype session with the scientist underscoring what we are trying to do at Califon bringing the global initiative. He said it will be a good article. He said that we want to make sure we spread the word about what we are doing at Califon. He said that Ken, from Rutgers, is working to help develop a video clip to illustrate best practices and differentiated activities and it will be up on the website. He said that our first parent advisory will be at the end of January and it will be published. He said the meetings will start in the afternoon and then will moved to the evening.

Fast ForWord- Dr. Gamble said that we have three (3) students working with Matt and Jenny and will add three (3) more in January. He also said that the guide reading group will be implemented in February. He said that we don't know how many students we will have after completion, but we are meeting the needs of students that need help at this point. He said that the parent meeting got moved due to the snow storm and it will be re-scheduled to January.

Dr. Gamble showed the agenda for the council of instruction/DEAC and explained the purpose which is to increase transparency in the evaluation process.

Mr. Turello asked if after the meetings he will report on a monthly basis. Dr. Gamble said that since there is a board member in the council, he/she will report. Mr. Turello said that he wants the Superintendent report section to focus on curriculum, but eventually it can be added to this section.

Mr. Bell asked who the council was at this point. Dr. Gamble said that Lisa Kooger, Maryjane Medea, Lori Montesion, Leslie Weiss, Sandy Anderson (parent appointment by PTA), Claudia Gangemi, Dan, and himself, were going to be part of the council.

Curriculum renewal plan- Dr. Gamble said he was planning to give an overview on it, and that it blends well to add rigor to the Math program.

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 17, 2013 7:30 p.m.**

*2. Introduction to the Khan Academy

Dr. Gamble said that students are pre-assessed, and that they can pin point where weaknesses are. He also said that as we move through the program, Dan and him would like to see it integrated into the Math program, once a week or twice every other week, using class time on it and encouraging students to work on it at home while the teacher monitors the progress which would be beneficial for both ,teacher, and student. He said that they are hoping to implement it in January.

Mr. Bell asked if it was associated with common core and if it could be put as part of the homework sessions. Dr. Gamble said that it was in the curriculum, and that it will reinforce it, pick up deficiencies, and give them the opportunity to go as far as they want to go. He also said that students have been working hard for the last couple of years, and it has really improved with the new dashboard.

Mr. Bell asked if there are a certain amount of assignments followed by the lessons. Dr. Gamble said that it is sort of like that, but much better. He said that it pin points where they are very quickly, but with eight (8) or ten (10) questions students know where they need to be. He also said that there is no pressure with the pre-assessment and that it has hints and video clips. He said they get reward points but the biggest thing is the data that teachers retrieve from it including multiple ways to understand what they need to do to help students.

Dr. Gamble said that we are moving forward with the goals and that's the plan. He said the Council meeting will be rescheduled as well as the parent webinar for Fast ForWord, and the advisory committee meeting at the end of January.

***VII. PUBLIC COMMENT – None**

Mr. Bell thanked Ms. Gangemi for stepping out.

(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.

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 17, 2013 7:30 p.m.**

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.

***VIII. BOARD SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT**

After review of the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports for the months of **July (revised), August, September, and October 2013** 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 in total 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.

***IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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.

A. *Finance/Facilities/Transportation/Personnel

A motion was made by Mr. Schundler and seconded by Mr. Ramarge to approve all of the following. The motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 17, 2013 7:30 p.m.**

Finance

November/December Bills List

- *1. Motion to approve the payment of invoices from check number 20613 to check number 20661, checks 11013, 12513, and non check N1135, in the amount of \$211,952.37.

Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

- *2. Motion to accept the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and the Auditor's Report on Administrative Findings: Financial, Compliance, and Performance for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2013, prepared by Ardito and Company, L.L.P. and to note their recommendations.

Facilities

Use Of Facilities

- *1. Motion to approve the following use of facilities:

Relay for Life (Abby Flagler) Gym, 8th Gr Rm 2/7/14 6PM-10:30PM
Dance for 5th and 6th graders from
Califon, Tewksbury, Lebanon Twp, & High Bridge

Ms. Peterson asked for clarification on this item. Dr. Gamble said that insurance is being provided and that Dan has been communicated in regards to times and details.

- *2. Motion to approve the service contract of Matarazzo Excavation & Masonry, LLC for snow removal at the rate of \$500 per occurrence.

Mr. Turello asked for more information on this item. Dr. Gamble said that we were paying depending on the season. He said that according to George, it was under \$500.00 but the person couldn't afford the insurance and left. He said this company charges \$250.00 for plowing and \$250.00 for salting.

Mr. Schundler asked about insurance as it is big part of the school because people might sue the school if someone falls and no contractors want to get involved where people walk because insurance is expensive. Dr. Gamble said that the company had all of the required insurances.

- *3. Motion to approve the service proposal of Laymans Contracting, Inc. for the paving, creation of additional parking, and reinforcing the base of the dumpster area for a fee of \$17,075.

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 17, 2013 7:30 p.m.**

Mr. Turello asked how much we have budgeted. Dr. Gamble said that we have quotes and that one was the lowest. He said that George was very confident and that it was a good price for what they are going to do.

Mr. Ramarge said that water gets underneath and that it's much needed.

Mr. Turello asked about timing. Dr. Gamble said that during the spring.

Dr. Gamble said the priority was item #3 because of the safety factor.

The following motion was made by Ms. Peterson and seconded by Mr. Bell. The motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.

- *4. Motion to approve the following resolution to accept the reimbursement grant of up to \$38,000 to implement the septic tank modification program.

Whereas the New Jersey State Department of Education has deemed the Califon School facilities project application to be complete and;

Whereas the New Jersey State Department of Education has now determined that the school facilities project is eligible for state support under Section 5 of the Educational Facilities Construction and Financing Act, P. L. 200.c.72 and the New Jersey Department of Education regulations at N.J.A.C. 6A:26-1;

Be it resolved that the Califon Public School District accepts the PEC (Preliminary Eligible Costs) of up to \$38,000 as the FEC (Final Eligible Costs).

Dr. Gamble said we need to get the \$80,000. He said that the SSP rep said that it was something that we need to know if we can follow through because it is costing \$680.00 to pump it. Dr. Gamble said that if we decide not to follow through with it, we will lose it. He said he recommends we accept the grant and from there we can get directions since we have 18 months.

Ms. Peterson said construction has delays too. Dr. Gamble said it is eighteen (18) months to commit, but maybe it will vary.

Mr. Schundler said that the money being spent for the pumping can be added and we can cut on other lines next year.

Mr. Bell asked if we have a plan.

Dr. Gamble said we have to go out for bid, and SSP will help.

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 17, 2013 7:30 p.m.**

Transportation (none)

Personnel:

A motion was made by Mr. Bell and seconded by Mr. Ramarge to approve items #1 and #2. The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Horizontal Move

- *1. Motion to accept the request for horizontal move for Matthew Zimmerman from BA to BA+15 for the 2014-15 school year based on the 2014-2015 salary guide.

Dr. Gamble said that by contract what we need to do for lateral movement is to let the Board know that we attained credits. He said that Matt sent them and has 21 credits on learning disabilities. He also said that he submitted a letter with transcripts to us prior to the Board meeting to be considered for lateral movement next year.

Mr. Schundler said that it was great to see it happen when it is supposed to happen.

- *2. Motion to approve the expansion of the Rutgers University Literacy Initiative for the 2013-2014 school year to include an in-service day along with an additional eight (8) consulting days at a fee of \$8,700.

Dr. Gamble said that Rutgers has been outstanding. He said that literacy is an area to improve and since we want to add rigor, they come suggest give ideas, strategies, and reports. He read a report from one of the Rutgers people. He said she has been meeting with Mr. Zimmerman on how to develop research for projects. He said she noted how she spent time with Ms. Kooger to determine next projects and suggestions. He also said she meets with Dan to plan and suggest materials and resources and part of the in-service will be integration of technology for literacy lessons. He said that it is not cheap. The \$8,700.00 is for eight (8) days plus half (1/2) professional days. He also said that in the spring they won't be in as much and next year it will not be up to that extent but we don't want to lose contact completely. He said that if we decide not to do that, they will just do the in-service but that will be it.

Mr. Bell asked how they get evaluated and if we can go without the Rutgers program. Dr. Gamble said that we can do a survey, observations, and we will get some more data with the tests on the spring. He said that the gut feeling now is the fact that teachers have benefited from it, and we are not going to need much support next year but we developed that intense type of PD.

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 17, 2013 7:30 p.m.**

Mr. Turello asked how it really shows that it makes a difference.

Dr. Gamble said that maybe we will get good news from NJASK in the spring but from now it is what we get from classroom observations and from talking to teachers.

Ms. Peterson said that the benefit is obvious to teachers.

Dr. Gamble said that the web got better resources from experts in the field. He said that if it wasn't for them, we would not have the benchmark assessments, expertise and rigor to add to research projects.

Ms. Peterson said she thinks the spring testing will be better and that in the past teachers were miserable, it wasn't positive, but this spring will be more valuable.

Dr. Gamble said it will be a mistake not to go with them right now. He said the order is to follow up through since we utilized the \$15,000.00 which was the strategic plan and we don't want to drop it. He said that integration with technology, and Fast ForWord there is a lot we can do.

Ms. Peterson said that it is costly but there is a lot of benefit.

The following motion was made by Mr. Schundler and seconded by Mr. Bell.

Roll call:

Mr. Jim Bell- Aye

Ms. Laura Peterson- Nay

Mr. Matthew Ramarge- Nay

Mr. Kim Schundler- Aye

Mr. Alfred Turello- Nay

- *3. Motion to approve a stipend of \$1,500 for Matthew Zimmerman to work an additional four (4) hours per week in order to provide for a "B" level boys' basketball team.

Mr. Ramarge asked which grades we were looking at.

Dr. Gamble said fourteen (14) boys and seven (7) girls all together. He said Tom and Matt were coaches for a six (6) week season, six (6) hrs. a week for \$64.00 an hr. He said the issue was that parents wanted the team to be more competitive so they came to him and said that four (4) kids were going to be cut. He said that if we could get a program with an A and B approach we can develop players and nobody would be left out.

Ms. Peterson said that everyone will be on the bench waiting to play.

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 17, 2013 7:30 p.m.**

Dr. Gamble said that during practices they will come together, and Matt will extend the practice with the girls to get everybody involved.

Mr. Ramarge asked if it was mandated that they have to play.

Dr. Gamble said no.

Mr. Ramarge said that his concern after sitting in the focus group was if kids were going to be ready when they get to H.S or if they would cuddle here in Califon. He said he thinks a typical team has 12 players and that on his my own opinion, we are not dealing with the parents correctly.

Dr. Gamble said we can let fourteen (14) kids play and let them know that up front, or create the B team and give those kids who get playing time the opportunity to play and help develop their skills.

Mr. Ramarge said to focus more on playing with schools our size even if it means to travel further to play with smaller schools.

Ms. Peterson said that we play with small schools.

Mr. Ramarge asked if the boys and girls will be scheduled at the same time.

Dr. Gamble said that they are working all that out and that Tom is the point person.

Ms. Peterson said that they practice from 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM and girls officially start at 4:30 PM- 5:30.

Mr. Turello asked if that will be for team A and team B.

Dr. Gamble said yes.

Ms. Peterson said that the expectation plus having four (4) to five (5) games is not worth \$1500.

Mr. Peterson asked if there was an A and B team before.

Dr. Gamble said that about six (6) years ago.

Mr. Schundler said that parents are not always appropriate and to him having two adults working with fourteen (14) kids isn't a bad number.

Dr. Gamble asked if it be worth giving it a try for one year.

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 17, 2013 7:30 p.m.**

Mr. Ramarge said that if it was eighteen (18) kids yes. He said that the difference has always been that the school leads for learning and performance. He said that when you get to H.S it is about being competitive and what he hears from parents is that they want to be competitive.

Mr. Ramarge said he would agree with Matt being assistant coach for \$250.00 as an alternative without separating the teams.

Dr. Gamble said no, that they came down looking for a solution for the kids to play.

***B. Curriculum and Instruction**

A motion was made by Mr. Ramarge and seconded by Mr. Schundler to approve the following items. The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Health Report

*1. Motion to approve the attached health report for November 2013.

*2. Motion to approve the following course reimbursement in accordance with Article XIII (2012-2015 Negotiated Agreement).

M. Zimmerman GED699 Special Topic: Multiple Disabilities	\$1,230.00
	Spring 2014

***C. Policy**

Policy book update

Mr. Bell said that he provided Linda Paterson with the paper from the state related to sport injuries. He said it gives an idea about what is required from the state for parents to sign for kids to play in school sports. He said he researched from colleges about injuries. He said that the 27743 law requires all districts to have a head and concussion policy and this will suffice. He said the second read will be in January.

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 17, 2013 7:30 p.m.**

D. *Communications

Ms. Peterson said that she will be happy to help in writing any content. She said we talked about perception of the Califon School she thinks that “making their lives extraordinary” is vague, especially when we are trying to be more rigorous. She said that maybe the school’s model may consider more rigorous language and focus on learning along achievement lines. She suggested having a contest.

***X. OLD BUSINESS**

Ms. Peterson reminded about the cake auction on January 31st for the 8th grade class trip.

Mr. Turello said that Board meeting notices were being sent last year and suggested Sue to start sending robo calls.

Mr. Bell said that it can be put in Genesis.

Mr. Turello said that when Debra (Dr. Sheard) was here we had talked about changes on schedule for the following year and if we plan on doing that.

Dr. Gamble said no.

***XI. NEW BUSINESS**

The following motion was made Mr. Ramarge and seconded by Ms. Peterson. The motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.

Motion to approve a change on the school’s calendar to go with a ninety (90) minute delay opening pending approval from the principal.

Mr. Turello said to start coordinating the music schedule properly because due diligence isn’t being followed.

***XII. PUBLIC COMMENT None**

(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

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 17, 2013 7:30 p.m.**

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.

***XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION – None**

Motion to approve the following resolution:

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**

There being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Ms. Peterson and seconded by Mr. Ramarge to adjourn at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Perdomo
Board Secretary

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 17, 2013 7:30 p.m.**