

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
January 21, 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 Mrs. Gangemi and seconded by Mr. Bell to approve the following minutes. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

December 17, 2014 Regular Meeting (as revised)
December 17, 2014 Executive Session

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January 7, 2015 Reorganization Meeting
Mrs. Gangemi pointed out that the December 17, 2014 Regular Minutes needed to be revised to change the date of the Council of Instruction meeting to January 27, 2015. Mr. Johnston said the revision would be made.

V. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS - NONE

VI. INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

*1. Shared Vision: Second Reading of Core Belief Statements

Dr. Gamble gave a recap of the process of developing the Shared Vision Statement. He stated the Core Belief Statements were the infrastructure. There are now a net amount of 62 Core Belief Statements. Dr. Gamble read the statements that were added since the last Board meeting. He pointed out these are input from the stakeholder groups. Mr. Bell asked about Chromebooks. Dr. Gamble replied the technology infrastructure needed to be upgraded.

A motion was made by Mr. Ramarge and seconded by Mrs. Gangemi to approve the Core Belief Statements to be used in developing the Shared Vision Statement. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Dr. Gamble said the next step is to develop the Shared Vision Statement. The first reading will be at the February 2015 Board meeting, and the second reading will be at the March 2015 Board meeting.

*2. HIB Report – nothing to report. Mr. Bell presented an article from the NJSBA on the declining incidents of 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.

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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.

Mr. Beard asked about visibility expectations with the shared superintendent arrangement. Dr. Gamble replied there are a contractual minimum of twelve hours per week at Califon. It is needs-based, reflecting the close proximity of the schools, and the schedule will be flexible. Mr. Beard asked about any potential conflicts of interest. Dr. Gamble pointed out that school choice is just about a non-issue, and that the CST arrangement is a separate agreement which has run quite smoothly for two years. Mr. Beard asked if paid after-school activities at Lebanon Township would be available to Califon students. Dr. Gamble said that has been discussed, as well as the advantages to Califon teachers in regards to articulation. He stressed that Dr. Kornagay is working for a smooth transition. Mr. Beard asked if there will be a parent information night regarding PARCC. Dr. Gamble said he will discuss that with Mr. Patton, especially since there are a lot of misconceptions about PARCC out in the public. He pointed out that the teachers had an in-service day on January 19, 2015 about PARCC. Mr. Ramarge and Mr. Bell said they feel the parent information night would be a good idea.

VIII. *BOARD SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT

After review of the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports for the month of **December 2014**, 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.

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

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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

Finance:

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

December/January Bills List

- *1. Motion to approve the payment of invoices from check number 21271 to check number 21331, checks 12014, and 11514, and non check N1153, in the amount of \$236,998.36.

Mr. Ramarge disclosed that check number 21297 was made payable to Califon Book Shop which is owned by his spouse.

Facilities:

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

- *1. TREP\$ Workshop Library 02/25/2015 6:30PM – 8:30PM
- *2. TREP\$ Marketplace Gym 03/27/2015 3:30PM – 9:00PM

Transportation: NONE

Personnel:

A motion was made by Mr. Beers and seconded by Mrs. Gangemi to approve the following. The motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.

Substitute List:

- *1. Motion to add the following to the Substitute List: Carol R. Clark
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Development/Travel

*2. Motion to approve the following staff development/travel:

D. Thompson NJMEA Music Conference 02/19-21/2015 \$185

Shared Services

*3. As recommended by the Interim Superintendent, a motion to approve the Shared Superintendent Agreement with Lebanon Township School District, commencing July 1, 2015 and ending July 1, 2016, at the annual cost of \$60,000, pending approval by the County Superintendent of Schools.

Mr. Beers inquired as to merit pay being Lebanon Township's responsibility. Dr. Gamble replied that the contract is specific to the amount to be paid by Califon. Mr. Beers asked about Lebanon Township's goals aligning with the Califon Board's goals. Dr. Gamble mentioned that this is a one-year contract that includes Califon's desires. He said there will be some give and take in the future. Mr. Bell asked if the signatures will be OK. Dr. Gamble replied yes. Dr. Gamble stated that he is looking forward to working with Dr. Kornagay on the transition.

B. Curriculum and Instruction

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

Health Report

*1. Motion to approve the attached Health Report for December 2014.

C. Policy

- Policy book update

Mr. Bell stated he is still working on policy regarding the updated Janet's Law with regards to AEDs. He also pointed out there are two Epipen bills before the Governor.

D. Communications: NONE

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X. OLD BUSINESS

A motion was made by Mr. Bell and seconded by Mr. Schundler to approve adding to the 2015-2016 school calendar Rosh Hashanah (Sept. 14) and Yom Kippur (Sept. 23) as holiday observances whereas school is closed. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Schundler asked to schedule a Finance Committee meeting to begin discussion on the 2015-2016 budget. The meeting will be February 28, 2015 at 7:30PM.

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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Mrs. Stoter thanked the Board for their efforts in getting the two Jewish holidays on the 2015-2016 school calendar. Dr. Kornagay thanked the Board for approving the shared Superintendent agreement. He stated that he is excited about the new arrangement. He pointed out that the contractual time requirement is exclusive of after-school events and Board meetings. Dr. Kornagay said the shared CST agreement is working. He stressed that transparency is important, as is setting goals for the year.

Mr. Beard asked if it is possible to add Chromebooks in the upcoming budget. Dr. Gamble said it will be part of the discussion. Mr. Bell mentioned he read an article about grants being available. Mr. Beers pointed out that it all starts with the

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infrastructure. He mentioned Google Apps. Dr. Kornagay said Lebanon Township can share their experiences with Google Apps.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Mrs. Gangemi and seconded by Mr. Beers to approve the following resolution. The motion carried 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 8:14 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 Mrs. Gangemi and seconded by Mr. Bell to reconvene into regular session at 8:43 p.m. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

***XV. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Mr. Schundler and seconded by Mr. Beers to adjourn at 8:44 p.m..

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Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas Johnston
Board Secretary