

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 15, 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
Mr. Christopher Keiser
Mr. Terren Suydam
Mr. Mark Cantagallo

Members Absent: None

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

***IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

January 18, 2017 Regular Session

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***V. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

- *1. NHVRHS Board of Education Meeting Calendar

***VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- *1. Superintendent Update:

Mr. Kornegay talked about the NJSBA meeting schedule for Thursday, February 23, at the HCESC office from 6:00PM – 9:00PM.

Facilities:

Mr. Kornegay discussed the proposed lighting upgrade project. Mr. Keiser said he changed to LED lighting at home and it made a big difference. Mr. Kornegay credited Mr. Weber, the Head Custodian, for his work in getting the ball rolling on the project. Mr. Suydam asked if this fit into the incentive bonus for Mr. Weber. Mr. Kornegay replied yes. Dr. Furmanski asked when the work would be done. Mr. Kornegay replied July. He then presented an update on the ROD grant.

Personnel:

Mr. Kornegay mentioned that Mrs. Parisella has requested maternity leave, and that the topic will be discussed in the Personnel section of the meeting. Mr. Kornegay discussed the recent court ruling regarding RICE notices. Mr. Suydam asked if staff can request being at a Personnel Committee meeting. Dr. Furmanski asked what proper notice is. Mr. Kornegay replied forty-eight hours. Mr. Cantagallo asked if all staff gets RICE'd. Mr. Kornegay replied yes. He added the ruling covers any conversation that leads to a decision. Mr. Suydam asked if a staff member can request being at the meeting. Mr. Kornegay replied yes.

Curriculum and Instruction:

Mr. Kornegay mentioned the 2017-2018 calendar. He stated that there will be middle school community service presentations at the March 2017 Board meeting.

Technology:

Mr. Kornegay talked about the meeting concerning technology needs for 2017-2018. Mr. Cantagallo asked about technology progress. Mrs. DeCoster mentioned digital portfolios, asked about staff time for uploading, and stated tweeting is inappropriate. Mr. Kornegay said there are no requirements for the time of day, and there should be student uploads.

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HIB Report: none to report

***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.

Mrs. Medea discussed the visit by author Trinka Hakes Noble. She stated there was plenty of positive feedback from students. Mrs. DeCoster thanked Mrs. Medea for making it all happen. Mrs. Medea said the author praised the students; the author was very impressed with Califon School. Mr. Suydam asked if there will be an article produced regarding the visit. Mrs. Medea replied she would prepare it.

Mrs. Cubberly advised being careful with the new lights for the school; to make sure they are not too bright. She expressed concern about community service simply being cleaning out dirty drawers in the art room. Mr. Kornegay said he will look into the matter. He explained scheduling, particularly the clustering of language arts classes. Dr. Furmanski asked about LED lighting harshness and aesthetics. Mr. Kornegay replied he will ask about that before the project. Mr. Keiser asked if there have been local installation done. Mr. Kornegay replied yes.

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

After review of the Board Secretary's reports for the month of January 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

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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 provided an update on the budget process for 2017-2018.

***IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Curriculum & Instruction Committee: no report.

Policy & Legislation Committee: no report.

Finance, Facilities, & Transportation Committee: will meet after State aid numbers come in.

Personnel Committee: no report.

Negotiations Committee: no report.

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

Mr. Cantagallo said the meeting of the sending districts is rescheduled. He discussed the NHVRHS demographic study which showed all districts except High Bridge and Clinton Borough having declining enrollment. Mr. Suydam asked if the State has taken action regarding declining enrollments. Mr. Kornegay replied the State has only encouraged districts to examine the issue. He added the demographic shift in the State has been to the north and east. Mr. Keiser mentioned a biotech program. Mr. Kornegay explained the joint effort by Polytech and NHVRHS, but the project is run by Polytech.

Communications Committee: Mr. Cantagallo encouraged articles promoting the school.

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

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A. Finance/Facilities/Transportation/Personnel

Finance:

Jan-Feb Bills List

- *1. A motion was made by Dr. Furmanski and seconded by Mr. Keiser to approve the payment of invoices from check number 22506 thru check number 22548, and checks 13017 and 21517, and non-checks N1194 thru N1196, in the amount of \$260,667.31. The motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.

Facilities:

Facilities Usage

- *1. A motion was made by Mr. Keiser and seconded by Dr. Furmanski to approve the following use of facilities. The motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.

North Hunterdon Youth Baseball Gym 2/24-4/28/17 Mon. 4:30-6:30pm Fri. 4:30-7:00pm

Prior to that vote, a motion was made by Mr. Keiser and seconded by Mrs. DeCoster to discuss this item separately. That motion passed on a unanimous voice vote. Mr. Keiser expressed safety concerns given the ages of the children, and asked about a certificate of insurance. Mr. Kornegay pointed out the school has an updated copy of their certificate of insurance. He also pointed out there are limits to the activities, and that this was held last year without incident. He said he will ask the applicant about communication with parents. Mr. Cantagallo said there are lots of safe activities. Mr. Kornegay stated Mr. Weber is very involved in monitoring the gym.

Lighting Upgrade

- *2. A motion was made by Dr. Furmanski and seconded by Mr. Keiser to approve the proposal from the New Jersey Department of Clean Energy Direct Install Program to upgrade to a more efficient lighting system that should pay for itself within two years. The cost to the Board would be \$10,731.35, half of which would be budgeted for in 2017-2018. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

Transportation: NONE

Personnel:

Maternity Leave

- *1. A motion was made by Dr. Furmanski and seconded by Mr. Keiser to approve the maternity leave for First Grade Teacher Jenny Parisella from April 24, 2017 thru June 30, 2017. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

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Dr. Furmanski asked about the replacement for Mrs. Parisella. Mr. Kornegay replied the position will be posted internally first, then it will be advertised next week. Dr. Furmanski asked about using a substitute teacher versus a full-time teacher. Mr. Kornegay explained a substitute teacher can be used for twenty days, and after one day, an additional twenty days is available, though the State encourages districts to go no more than the initial twenty days. Dr. Furmanski asked about the effect on the budget. Mr. Kornegay replied there will be a cost.

Substitute Custodian

- *2. A motion was made by Dr. Furmanski and seconded by Mr. Keiser to approve Anthony Watkoskey as Substitute Custodian at a rate of \$12.50 per hour. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

Substitute Teachers

- *3. A motion was made by Dr. Furmanski and seconded by Mr. Keiser to approve Christopher Tavaglione as a Substitute Teacher at a rate of \$80.00 per day. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.
- *4. A motion was made by Dr. Furmanski and seconded by Mr. Keiser to approve Sherry Baranek as a Substitute Teacher at a rate of \$80.00 per day. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

Professional Development

- *5. A motion was made by Dr. Furmanski and seconded by Mr. Keiser to approve the following professional development. The motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.

L. Patterson NJSSNA Spring Conference Iselin NJ 03/25/2017 \$199

B. Curriculum and Instruction

Health Report

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

Special Education Policies and Procedures

- *2. A motion was made by Dr. Furmanski and seconded by Mr. Keiser to adopt the attached amended Special Education Model Policies and Procedures issued by the New Jersey Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

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Mr. Kornegay said he received an email from the New Jersey Department of Education regarding the policies and procedures. He clarified that the State is catching up; the district already has the procedures in place, and there is no substantive change.

***X. OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Cantagallo asked about poison ivy on the fences. Mr. Kornegay stated a lot of it is not on our side of the fence; the roots are not on the school's property. Mr. Keiser said the poison ivy destroyed parts of the fence. Dr. Furmanski asked about temperature guidelines for outside recess. Mr. Kornegay replied no outside recess if the temperature is below freezing or there is precipitation. He added sometimes student attire, while good for inside the building, is not effective for outside on cold days. Dr. Furmanski asked if there was supervision scheduling. Mr. Kornegay replied yes. Mr. Keiser asked about monitoring for PTA lunches. Mr. Kornegay replied the cafeteria and the playground have different liability. He discussed line of site supervision in the cafeteria and the playground. Mr. Kornegay explained the students go out for recess when it is reasonable and appropriate. Mr. Suydam asked for an update on the shared services for the School Street Extension. Mr. Kornegay replied we are not part of it; we take care of our part of the road.

***XI. NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Keiser asked about study hall and enrichment. Mr. Kornegay said he would look to see if any study halls have been ineffective. Dr. Furmanski asked for the percentage of students who do nothing in study hall. Mr. Kornegay replied if the percentage is one, the issue should be looked at. Dr. Furmanski said this could be referred to the Curriculum Committee. Mr. Keiser asked if the 3-D printer is still being used. Mr. Kornegay replied yes. Dr. Furmanski asked if it were not permanently broken. Mr. Kornegay replied it is not permanently broken. Mr. Keiser asked about the physical education curriculum, and talked about cross fit training. Mr. Kornegay said there are State guidelines with minimally acceptable standards that our curriculum meets. Mrs. DeCoster asked if snow day announcements go on the school's website. Mr. Kornegay replied the notice is put on the website after the phone calls are made. Dr. Furmanski stated the alert call system is working well.

***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

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Mrs. Cubberly expressed her concerns about “specials” classes being only thirty minutes in length. She stated the students need good quality specials. Mrs. Medea pointed out that specials are indeed forty-two minutes long. Dr. Furmanski asked if all specials were grade combined. Mr. Kornegay replied only physical education classes are grade combined, and stated the combined gym classes work well. He confirmed the specials classes are forty-two minutes in length. Mrs. DeCoster asked if the combined gym classes allowed more time for other things. Mr. Kornegay replied it allows more time for language arts and, to a lesser degree, math. Mrs. Medea stated it allows for teacher common planning and articulation. She recommended reaching out to the Rutgers University contacts for a maternity leave replacement.

***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.

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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 be brought before the Board, a motion was made by Dr. Furmanski and seconded by Mr. Suydam to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas Johnston
Board Secretary