

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
August 22, 2018 7:30 p.m.**

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

This meeting is called to order at 5:33 p.m. with the following opening statement read by Mr. 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 Special Meeting was provided to 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. ROLL CALL**

Mr. Jeffrey Dahl	Present
Mrs. Nina DeCoster	Present
Dr. Jevan Furmanski	Present
Mr. Christopher Keiser	Present
Mr. Mark Cantagallo	Present

**ALSO PRESENT**

Mr. Jason Kornegay – Superintendent

**\*III. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion made by Mr. Keiser, seconded by Mrs. DeCoster, to adjourn to executive session to interview interim Superintendent candidates. The time was 5:35 PM.

**\*IV. RECONVENE**

Motion made by Mr. Dahl, seconded by Mrs. DeCoster, to leave executive executive session and return to the regular meeting. The time was 7:35 PM.

Motion approved on a unanimous voice vote.

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

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**\*II. THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

All in attendance pledged allegiance to the flag.

**\*III. ROLL CALL**

Mr. Jeffrey Dahl	Present
Mrs. Nina DeCoster	Present
Dr. Jevan Furmanski	Present
Mr. Christopher Keiser	Present
Mr. Mark Cantagallo	Present

Also Present: Mr. Kornegay, Superintendent  
Ms. Laraway, Board Secretary

**\*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.

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

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Public: Is the time period still open to apply for the steering committee?

Mr. Cantagallo: The BOE has not chosen the steering committee so you can still apply.

Mr. Keiser: Are we going to make a motion to put a deadline on when applications have to be submitted for the steering committee?

Mr. Cantagallo: There is no deadline. It was originally stated that applications had to be received by August 15, but there was no meeting due to a lack of quorum.

**\*V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Motion made by Mr. Cantagallo, seconded by Mr. Keiser, to approve the following minutes:

July 18, 2018	Regular and executive session
July 30, 2018	Special meeting

Motion approved on a unanimous voice vote.

**\*VI. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

Each BOE member received a letter from a Califon resident.

**\*VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- \*1. Superintendent Update:

Facilities: The building is ready to open. Mr. Kornegay thanked Mr. Weber for his efforts in getting the building ready for the new school year.

Personnel: The head custodian's resignation is on the agenda for acceptance and approval for a new custodian.

Curriculum and Instruction: None at this time.

Technology: None at this time.

HIB Report: None at this time.

Steering Committee: Mr. Kornegay provided the BOE with the applications received to date.

**\*VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Curriculum & Instruction Committee: None at this time.

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Policy & Legislation Committee: None at this time.

Finance, Facilities, & Transportation Committee: Not met. The state reduced the district's state aid for the 2018-19 school year. The reduction in state aid will continue to increase in the ensuing years.

Personnel Committee: The BOE met this evening to interview three candidates for the interim Superintendent position.

Negotiations Committee: A meeting is scheduled for August 23.

Long Range Planning, Shared Services, & School Choice Committee: None at this time.

**\*IX. CONSENT AGENDA**

Matters listed within the consent agenda 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.

Motion made by Mr. Cantagallo, seconded by Dr. Furmanski, to discuss the consent agenda.

Motion approved on a unanimous voice vote.

Dr. Furmanski asked if there would be an overlap of the new and the custodian who is leaving. Mr. Kornegay answered yes.

Motion made by Mr. Cantagallo, seconded by Dr. Furmanski, to approve the consent agenda.

Motion approved on a unanimous roll call vote.

***A. Finance/Facilities/Transportation/Personnel***

***Finance:***

1. Motion to approve the list of bills dated August 22, 2018 in the amount of \$127,888.08.



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**\*XI. NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Kornegay was approached by the Califon School's cross county coach requesting that Tewksbury's 5<sup>th</sup> grade students be able to join Califon's cross county team. Tewksbury restructured and the 5<sup>th</sup> grade moved to the elementary school and are unable to participate on the middle school's team due to the time differences of the school sessions. Tewksbury would have approximately 7-12 additional students. Califon's team has about 12 5-8 graders. Tewksbury would provide transportation for their students and provide transportation for both Califon and Tewksbury students to the meets. Tewksbury would be willing to provide an assistant coach. The team would compete as a Califon team.

Mr. Keiser: Cross country is the only sport that 5<sup>th</sup> graders can participate in. If Tewksbury is so willing to do so many things, why are they so adamant to come over here to join our team at the 5<sup>th</sup> grade level. Afraid that Califon kids would lose the individually of the cross country team. Is this coming from the coach of the Tewksbury BOE?

Mr. Kornegay: The request came from the coach. There was a motion that was approved by Tewksbury to allow the 5<sup>th</sup> graders to participate on Califon's cross county team.

Mr. Keiser: It's strange that the request comes from the coach and not the BOE.

**\*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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Public: Asked about insurance coverage for the team and coach.

Public: What started this was a discussion with parents of the Hunterdon Hawks and concerns about Tewksbury not having a team. Not taking away from team. Buses

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already run through Califon. It's an opportunity to have students participate. The BOE could charge a small activity fee. The coach is wonderful.

Public: Great idea to help neighbor.

Mr. Cantagallo: Can we pass a motion to allow but then take a straw poll once we have more information from Tewksbury?

Mr. Kornegay: No, there can be no straw poll.

Dr. Furmanski: Can we allow them to practice?

Mr. Keiser: This would disrupt the cohesiveness of the team, our kids would feel intimidated by runners from a track team. Doesn't want to take away from first time runners.

Public: Great idea to allow. There is room to have more kids on the team. Having more kids would create more competition to run against others. There would be an advantage to know the course.

Mr. Keiser: Need to have more information, need to know number of students and gender. This doesn't strike a sentiment. This program was cut from Tewksbury because of restructuring, they should have their own team.

Mr. Dahl: This gets more kids involved. Give Jason the opportunity to get more information.

Public: We have spent a lot of time saying how great Califon is and questioned how to attract more students to Califon. Califon's cross county program is a great program, let's show off what we have.

Mr. Kornegay: Tewksbury would be required to pay a student activity fee.

Mr. Cantagallo: We should be willing to help a neighbor.

Mr. Keiser: Tewksbury didn't care when they went school choice and how that would affect Califon.

Mr. Keiser left the meeting at 8:20 PM.

Public: This is an opportunity to show what a great thing we have going on.

Public: How many 5<sup>th</sup> graders are there from Califon?

Mr. Kornegay: 5. All the students we are talking about will be together at Voorhees.

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Students will reap the benefits with the more experiences we afford our kids with others. This is what is best for our kids. This is a 5-8 team but the 5<sup>th</sup> graders have a separate championship. There would be no Califon students that would not be allowed to participate.

Public: The kids will have fun.

Public: Show working for a common goal is good.

Mr. Cantagallo: We should make a motion to allow Tewksbury to participate but once we get more information from Tewksbury, the Superintendent can make a final decision.

Dr. Furmanski: It's a bad idea to vote for something with no specifics and then let the Superintendent make the final decision. It is very easy to have a special meeting once we have all the facts.

Motion made by Mr. Cantagallo, seconded by Mrs. DeCoster, to accept Tewksbury cross country students while giving the Superintendent the ability to eliminate the agreement if so fit.

Motion approved by a 3-1 vote with Dr. Furmanski voting no.

Public: Ill advised not to have a deadline on the steering committee applications. Let's start to work.

Mr. Kornegay: Will send another communication to the community with a deadline.

Public: How many applications have been received?

Mr. Kornegay: 9

**\*XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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



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- 6. Disclosure could impair public safety
- 7. Pending/Anticipated litigation/Contract negotiation
- 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 8:30 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.

Motion made by Mr. Cantagallo, seconded by Dr. Furmanski, to adjourn to executive session.

Motion approved on a unanimous voice vote.

**\*XIV. RECONVENE**

Motion made by Mr. Cantagallo, seconded by Dr. Furmanski, to return to the regular meeting. The time was 9:53 PM.

Motion approved on a unanimous voice vote.

**\*XV. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Dr. Furmanski, seconded by Mrs. DeCoster, to adjourn the meeting. The time was 9:53 PM.

Motion approved on a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Karin Laraway  
Board Secretary