

## **Special Meeting – February 26, 2020**

A Special meeting was held on Wednesday, February 26, 2020 at the Early Childhood Center, 270 First Street, Palisades Park, New Jersey beginning at 7:00 p.m.

The assemblage saluted the flag.

### Statement of Presiding Officer:

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 213, P.L. 1975, I hereby state that adequate notice of this Special meeting was provided by written notice dated February 18, 2020.

- Posted in all school buildings
- Advertised in at least one of the Board's official newspapers
- Communicated to the Borough Clerk

In attendance: Stephanie Jang, Jason Kim, John Mattessich, Eun Min, Jeffrey Woo, Joseph Cirillo, Angela Spasevski, Louis DiLuzio, Esq., Richard Hawkins, Esq.

Rebekah Lee arrives at 7:05 p.m.

Absent: T. Matarazzo, Barnabas Woo, Timothy Yang

### Report of the Superintendent:

Lindbergh School "Safety Team Program" took part in providing donations to the local food pantry at St. Michael's parish.

Dr. Domenico Zarro and his students participated in the NJ City University music program "Symphonia"

Bergen County Department of Education visited the district on February 10, 2020 for a QSAC review.

February 17, 2020 the Palisades Park/Leonia Football Team successfully raised \$6,500.00 via a fundraiser initiated by Rose Lonis. The proceeds will be used to purchase jerseys for the team members.

Remaining funds will be used to provide scholarships to graduating seniors.

Justin Rodriguez, senior basketball player at the Jr/Sr High School, eclipsed the 1,000 point mark.

Jun Soon Kim, junior at the Jr/Sr High School, was honored as the "Athlete of the Week" by the Bergen Record for her swimming achievements. This is the second time Jun has been honored as "Athlete of the Week".

The High School Dance Team placed 6<sup>th</sup> in the Country at a competition held in Florida last weekend.

On February 7<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Cirillo and the Borough Architect, Ed Acari, performed a walk-thru at each building location to assess the remedial work needed at each of our schools. Dr. Cirillo will continue to work closely with the Borough.

Dr. Cirillo is recommending to the Board a “re-registration” of all students in grades K – 12 to be implemented prior to the end of this school year.

Mary DeBlasio, Teacher of Italian, presented a request by IACE, the Italian American Commission on Education, to allow 6 school principals from Italy to visit our schools this spring. They would like to perform a comparative study. Palisades Park is one of 5 school districts chosen to be visited this year.

Report of the Board President:

Mrs. Jang visited each school building for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time this month. She visited various programs and spoke with teachers regarding needs in each area. She also met with members of “COFIA”, Community of Friends in Action, an organization that assists immigrant families.

Report of the Board Attorney:

All matters will be discussed in closed session.

Minute Approval:

A motion by J. Kim, seconded by R. Lee to accept the January 9, 2020 reorganization meeting minutes. All ayes on roll call.

A motion by J. Woo, seconded by J. Mattessich to accept the January 15, 2020 regular meeting minutes. All ayes on roll call.

**Report of the Committee Reports (attached)**

Stephanie Jang announced that the next negotiations meeting will take place on March 5, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Board Office.

Rebekah Lee, chairperson of student activities, recognized Jun Soon Kim, a junior at the High School and champion swimmer. She has been offered a scholarship by Yale University.

The Board will enter into closed session upon a motion by Stephanie Jang, seconded by Rebekah Lee, all ayes on roll call.

*R E D A C T E D*

Open Session:

A motion by Jeffrey Woo, seconded by Rebekah Lee to re-open the meeting to the public.

New Business:

- 1.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent establishes a sick leave bank for a Lindbergh School employee.  
Motion by: J. Woo, seconded by J. Kim, all ayes on roll call. Motion passes.
- 2.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the "re-registration" of all district students commencing during the spring of 2020.  
Motion by: J. Kim, seconded by R. Lee, all ayes on roll call. Motion passes.

Audience Participation:

Motion to open to the public: Stephanie Jang, Second by Rebekah Lee, All ayes on roll call.

Lindbergh School students spoke to the Board regarding the lack of desks, chairs and computers in certain classes. Parents reiterated what students commented on.

Paul Lee, resident/former board member asked when the re-register policy might take effect – March? April?

Dr. Cirillo said he does not have a specific date set yet. The policy will be proposed in the near future.

A resident asked if the district employs a residency officer. Dr. Cirillo said the Board currently employs 2 residency officers – a police officer and a retired police officer – both whom check on questionable residency issues.

President Jang spoke on the need of the Borough and the Board to work together to solve the issues facing the community due to overcrowding and the lack of space in our school buildings.

Dr. Cirillo announced that at the next board meeting scheduled on March 18<sup>th</sup>, he will be able to announce when the re-registration policy will commence.

A motion by Stephanie Jang, second by Rebekah Lee to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

Palisades Park Board of Education  
Palisades Park, New Jersey

February 26, 2020

Report of the Finance Committee – Mr. John Mattessich

- 1.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the following workshop requests:

<u>Staff Member</u>	<u>Location/Description</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Ive Pavin Phys Ed Teacher	Long Branch, NJ/Annual Health/ Phys Ed/ Recreation Convention	02/24/20	\$85.00
Alexa Lewris Science Teacher	Bloomfield, NJ/PRISM Math and Science Workshop	02/28/20	150.00
Lisa Yee Speech Pathologist	Fairfield, NJ/Therapy Strategies	03/10/20	150.00
Marilyn Orejuela Social Worker	Iselin, NJ/Association of School Social Workers	03/23/20	100.00
Catherine Clarke OT	Boston, MA/AOTA Conference and Expo	03/26/20 03/27/20	150.00
Nicole Turro Social Studies	Ramapo College, NJ/"Fascism and Anti-Fascism"	04/23/20	150.00
Joseph Spafford Athletic Director	DAANJ Conference/Atlantic City Directors of Athletics Association	03/16/20- 03/19/20	500.00

- 2.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves a "move across the guide" for the following:

Michelle Rengifo  
ESL Teacher  
Present Step: Step 3/BA+15  
Adjustment: Step 3 MA  
\$54,008.00

- 3.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent accepts the financial reports for the High School and the Lindbergh School student activities accounts, month ending 01/31/20. **(Attached)**

- 4.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the following Tuition Reimbursement requests:

Jorge Vargas  
Rowan University  
"Integrating Language & Content  
In the ESL/Bilingual Classroom"  
3 Credits

Laurie Nova  
Felician University  
"Curriculum & Methods  
For ESL"  
3 Credits

Robert Biagiotti  
Andrews University  
"College Readiness for ELL"  
"Endangered Species/Mass Extinction"  
"Exploring Past, Present, Future Climate Change"  
"Nature Education/Environmental Literacy"  
11 Credits

- 5.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent accepts the following payroll amounts:

\$849,388.47 – December 20, 2019  
\$781,733.20 – January 15, 2020  
\$877,277.04 – January 30, 2020

- 6.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent appoints Angela Spasevski as the Public Agency Compliance Officer (P.A.C.O.) for the Palisades Park Board of Education, to serve in such office until the next organizational meeting. This appointment is made in accordance with N.J.A.C. 17:27-1.1.
- 7.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves an out-of-district placement for a special needs student at the "Windsor Learning Center", Pompton Lakes, NJ for the remainder of the 2019/2020 school year. Annual tuition: \$67,620.00. Start date: 02/24/20. Tuition pro-rated.

- 8.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves entering into an Agreement with “Genesis Educational Services, Inc.”, a student information system, beginning July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021. Annual Cost: \$27,750.00 (Replacing Power Schools).
- 9.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves entering into a Service Agreement with “Care Plus, NJ” commencing February 27, 2020 – June 30, 2020. Care Plus provides individual, group and family counseling focused on supporting students’ academic success and mental health needs.

Care Plus will provide the placement of one Bilingual full-time therapist:

Jenny Lozano-Rivera  
Licensed Clinical Social Worker

Fee to be paid out of Title I, Title I SIA, Title IV funds as follows:

Title IV	20-280-100-300	\$ 2,009.00
Title I Reallocated	20-233-100-300	\$20,000.00
Title I	20-231-100-300	\$20,000.00
Title I SIA	20-232-100-300	<u>\$28,000.00</u>
		<u><b>\$70,009.00</b></u>

- 10.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the transfer of funds up to the amount of \$60,000.00 from the Maintenance Reserve Account to the Current Account to be utilized for the masonry wall repair at the rear of Lindbergh Elementary School.
- 11.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the submission of the “School Security Grant” (Alyssa’s Law) to the NJDOE. Maximum award: \$94,585.00.
- 12.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the January 2020 budget transfers (**attached**) in accordance with Title 18A:22-8.1, and Furthermore designates the Business Administrator to make budget transfers between line items, as necessary between the monthly meetings of the Board.
- 13.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent accepts the financial reports of the Business Administrator and the Treasurer of School Moneys, month ending 01/31/20, and Furthermore the Board certifies that in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6:20-2A (10 e) that no major account or fund in the budget has been over-expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. (Full report on file in the Board Office)

14.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the invoices for the month ending 01/31/20 in the amount of **\$1,124,701.91**.

Fund 10 (General Current Expenses)	\$ 951,988.07
Fund 20 (Special Revenue Fund)	\$ 60,592.85
Fund 40 (Debt Service Fund)	<u>\$ 112,120.99</u>
	<b>\$1,124,701.91</b>

**Introduced by: J. Mattessich**

**Seconded by: J. Kim**

**All ayes on roll call**

Palisades Park Board of Education  
Palisades Park, New Jersey

February 26, 2020

Report of the Buildings & Grounds Committee – Mr. Jason Kim

- 1.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the use of the **PPHS gym on Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>** between the **hours of 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.** for use by **Garden State Kendo** for a “try-out” program. Pending receipt of COI and security deposit.
- 2.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the use of the PPHS gym on Tuesday & Thursday evenings from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. for a Rec Department basketball program. This program will begin April 14<sup>th</sup> and end June 4<sup>th</sup>. **PPHS athletic events/programs will supersede any “outside” requests.**
- 3.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves a request from the Palisades Park Board of Health for the use of Lindbergh School on Saturday, **April 18<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. to host the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Health Fair.** Areas requested include: First Floor classrooms, faculty room, and cafeteria. Limited use of the Kitchen area.
- 4.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the use of the **PPHS gym on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 – 4:00 p.m.** “**United Taekwondo Center**” will be hosting a tournament. Approximately 200 participants over the course of the day. Request pending receipt of COI and security deposit.
- 5.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves a “**car wash fundraiser**” for the Class of 2021 on **Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.** Rain date: May 30<sup>th</sup>. Car wash will be held at the back of Lindbergh School (Roff Avenue).
- 6.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the use of the High School auditorium/cafeteria on **Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>** for Troop 379 “**Eagle Scout – Court of Honor**” program. The ceremony & reception – 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- 7.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the use of the PPHS gym & cafeteria on **Friday, August 14<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 – 10:00 p.m.** for the “**2<sup>nd</sup> Andri Rakotoselson Basketball Day**” scholarship fundraiser.
- 8.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the use of the Lindbergh School on **Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup> between the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.** for a Palisades Park Police Department “security drill”.

Introduced by: J. Kim

Seconded by: J. Mattessich

All eyes on roll call



Palisades Park Board of Education  
Palisades Park, New Jersey

February 26, 2020

Report of the Personnel Committee – Dr. Thomas Matarazzo

- 1.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent accepts the resignation of Roberto Mendez, Director of Special Services, effective January 31, 2020.
- 2.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the following appointment, effective immediately:

Alexandra Mendillo  
B.S. Monmouth University  
Substitute Nurse for the District  
\$250.00 per diem

- 3.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the appointment of the following assistant track coaches:

Jaclyn Dellosa  
Joe Gingerelli  
Stipend: \$4,858.00 (split)\*

- 4.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the following appointment:

Julia Caruso  
Teacher of Students with Disabilities  
Step 3 MA - \$54,008.00\*  
Effective 03/02/2020  
Lindbergh Elementary School

- 5.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the appointment of the following Basic Skills teachers:

Lizbeth Escarraman  
Elementary K – 6  
\$37. per hour/29.5 hours per week  
Effective: 01/29/20 – ECC

Tina Vartolone  
Elementary K -6  
\$37. Per hour/29.5 hours per week  
Effective: 02/27/20 – Lindbergh School

\*Pending negotiations

- 6.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the appointment of a part-time custodian at Lindbergh School, effective 01/27/20:

Perla Ibarra  
Palisades Park, NJ  
\$11. Per hour/29.5 hours per week

- 7.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves extending Lindsay Adkins' contract through the end of the current school year (06/30/20). Ms. Adkins is a Teacher of English at the Jr/Sr High School.

- 8.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the following substitute teachers for the remainder of the school year:

Norma Finkel  
Certified Elementary K – 8

Anya Labonville  
BA – Psychology

- 9.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the appointment of Yustitia (Tia) Szewczk as an Aide at the ECC, effective 02/24/20. \$14,500.00 prorated.

- 10.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the following appointments to the Lindbergh School After School programs:

Ebet Diaz  
Grade 5 Math  
Effective: 02/13/20

Kathy Maurer  
Grade 2 ELA  
Effective: 03/03/20

- 11.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the appointment of Jenna Mancini, HS Science teacher, as a volunteer Softball Coach.

- 12.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the appointment of Joanna Hali as Supervisor of Special Services, effective immediately through June 30, 2020.

- 13.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves an extension to a family leave for Jenna Millar. Mrs. Millar was scheduled to return to work on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. She is requesting an extension to Tuesday, April 14, 2020.

- 14.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the appointment of James Mascolo to the "Option II" after school program beginning February 7, 2020. \$36.00 per hour

Introduced by: J. Woo

Seconded by: J. Kim

All eyes on roll call

Palisades Park Board of Education  
Palisades Park, New Jersey

February 26, 2020

Report of Student Activities/Field Trips – Ms. Rebekah Lee

- 1.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves a field trip to the **Liberty Science Center, Jersey City, NJ on Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>**. The 2nd Grade “Treble Makers Chorus” will leave school at 9:00 a.m. and return approximately 2:00 p.m. Students will perform on the concourse of the Science Center and explore the museum. Cost per student: \$25.
- 2.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves a field trip to **Middletown Theater, Middletown, NJ on Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>**. Italian I students will view “Sempreverde: Evergreen” a Bi-lingual Edu-Musical. Time: 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Cost per student: \$20.
- 3.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves a field trip to **“PepsiCo Design & Innovation Center”, NYC on Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>**. Italian II & III students will tour the PepsiCo facility. Event sponsored by IACE. Time: 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Cost per student: \$15.
- 4.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves a 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade class trip to **Bergen Pac, Englewood, NJ on Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup>**. Students will watch a performance of “The Little Red Hen”. Time: 8:30 a.m. – 12 noon. Cost per student: \$16.

Introduced by: R. Lee

Seconded by: J. Mattessich

All eyes on roll call