

Regular Meeting**June 16, 2022**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

The assemblage saluted the Flag.

In Attendance:

Board Members: Thomas Matarazzo, Eun Min, Soo Chung, Anieska Garcia, Jason Kim, Kevin Lim,
Peter Longo, John Mattessich, Charlie Shin
Dr. Joseph Cirillo, Sarah Kim, Esq.

Statement of Presiding Officer:

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, I hereby state that adequate notice of this Regular meeting has been provided to the public by written notice dated January 18, 2022.

The Meeting has been:

- Emailed to all staff members
- Communicated to at least one of the Board's designated newspapers
- Filed with the Borough Clerk of Palisades Park

Report of the Board President:

Dr. Matarazzo reported on numerous events, i.e., the Pre-School & Kindergarten graduations, the 6th Grade "move-up" ceremony and the Senior Prom.

Tomorrow morning at 10:00 a.m. the High School graduation ceremony will take place at the County Field.

Report of the Superintendent:

Dr. Cirillo reported on the Lead Testing requirements that are mandated by the State of New Jersey.

He thanked the district's faculty and staff for their hard work and dedication to our students and the community.

Minute Approval:

Motion by John Mattessich, second by Anieska Garcia, all ayes on roll call to accept the minutes of the April 21, 2022 regular board meeting. 9 – 0

Finance Committee:

- 1.) RESOLVED that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves an out-of-district placement at The Forum School, Paramus commencing July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. Annual tuition: \$87,361.00.
- 2.) RESOLVED that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves an out-of-district placement at CTC Academy, Fairlawn commencing July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. Annual tuition: \$94,296.50.

- 3.) RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent renews a contract agreement with Jewish Family & Children's Services, Teaneck for the 2022/2023 school year. JFS will implement the "Club Ed Afterschool Program" at both the Early Childhood Center and Lindbergh Elementary School. JFCS will pay the PPSD \$20,000. Per school year (\$2,000 x 10 months) for the use of facilities in both school buildings.
- 4.) RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent renews a services agreement between the BOE and "ProCare Therapy" for 1.1 nursing services commencing 09/02/22 – 06/13/23. Hourly rate: \$72.50 Minimum hours: 37.5 per week
- 5.) RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent renews a contract agreement between the BOE and "Bayada Home Health Care" to provide substitute nursing services to the district on an as needed basis. The Agreement will be effective 07/01/22 – 06/30/23 at a rate of \$60.00 per hour.
- 6.) RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the renewal of a software license agreement with "Systems 3000 Inc.", Eatontown for the period of 07/01/22 – 06/30/23 at a cost of \$24,324.00. Systems 3000 is a provider of integrated Accounting, Payroll & Personnel software apps for NJ schools.
- 7.) RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the following salary adjustments, effective September 1, 2022:

David Cho

Present: Step 8/9 - \$59,800.00

Adjustment: Step 9/10 - \$63,605.00

Jaclyn Jacobs

Present: Step 4/5 - \$55,031.00

Adjustment: Step 5/6 - \$58,680.00

- 8.) RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves a Food Service payment to Pomptonian Food Service, Inc. in the amount of \$30,029.31 for expenses incurred during the month of May 2022.
- 9.) RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the 05/27/22 payroll in the amount of \$796,352.59 and the 06/15/22 payroll in the amount of \$928,446.95.

10.) RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the June 2022 bill list in the amount of \$929,667.97 as follows:

Fund 10 – General/Current Expenses:	\$791,200.05
Fund 20 – Special Revenue:	<u>\$138,467.92</u>
Total Expenses:	\$929,667.97

11.) RESOLVED, that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the submission of the Certification of Implementation of the Corrective Action Plan, FY 2021. This document certifies that the Board has implemented all the 2021 audit recommendations.

12.) 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 05/31/2022. (Attached)

Moved by Kevin Lim, second by Anieska Garcia, all ayes on roll call: 9 – 0

Report of the Buildings & Grounds Committee – Mr. Charlie Shin, Chairman

1.) RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves a request from Captain Anthony Espino, Palisades Park Police Department, to use the Lindbergh School facilities on June 20, 2022 to June 24, 2022 between the hours of 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. “Active shooter” training will be conducted at that time.

2.) RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the use of the ECC Multi-Purpose Room on Wednesday, Thursday & Friday – June 22, 23, & 24 for a “Cheerleading Camp”. Mrs. DeBlasio and her team will be utilizing the room between the hours of 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (ECC students will not be present at that time)

Moved by Charlie Shin, second by Jason Kim, all ayes on roll call: 9 – 0

Report of the Personnel Committee – Mrs. Eun Min, Chairperson

1.) RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent accepts the resignation of Claudia Sarah Choi, Lindbergh School Teacher, effective May 29, 2022.

2.) RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent accepts the resignation of Alex Kuchar, Social Studies Teacher, effective June 17, 2022.

3.) RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent accepts the resignation of Jenna Millar, Pre-K Teacher, effective June 30, 2022.

4.) RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent accepts the resignation of Joseph Spafford, High School Athletic Director, effective June 30, 2022.

5.) RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent accepts the resignation of Songul Bayram, School Psychologist, effective July 20, 2022.

6.) RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the placement of a student teacher, Joseph Kim, at the Jr/Sr High School. Date: 09/06/22 – 12/02/22. Program: Biology

7.) RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the following faculty members to work in the “Newcomers Club” program:

- Laurie Nova
- Samantha Matarazzo
- Shinae Chung

Title I Funds - \$36.00 an hour

8.) RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves “summer hours” for the 3 school nurses, not to exceed 15 hours (each).
Hourly Pay: \$30.00

9.) RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the following teachers to conduct ESL testing during the summer, not to exceed 25 hours (each): Laurie Nova and Michele Rengifo. Hourly Pay: \$36.00 per hour (Title III Funds)

10.) RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the following staff members working in the “summer school” programs (6/27/22 – 7/29/22):

High School Programs:

Monica Rosado – Math
Michael Buckley – Social Studies

Lindbergh School:

Allison Ginolfi
Tara Lehman
Kathleen Maurer

Lindbergh School ESL:

Ebet Diaz
Karla Campos
Shamainie Beck

Lindbergh School:

Randi Brestin
Michele Lee
Tamara Tarantino
Malinda Sue O'Reilly
Olga Tatta
Jaclyn Vanore

Lindbergh School ESL:

Hanna Veszlovsky

Hourly rate of pay: \$35.00

- 11.) RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of Superintendent approves the appointment of the following Substitute Teacher:

Jade Park
AAS - The New School

- 12.) RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the following appointment, effective 09/01/2022:

Lauren Vivirito
Montclair U.
BA – Art Education
Step 1 BA - \$56,030.00
Jr/Sr High School Teacher of Art

- 13.) RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the following appointment, effective 09/01/2022:

Aimee Jimenez-Harper
MS – Early Childhood Education
And Special Education
Step 3 MA - \$60,095.00
Pre-K 4 Teacher @ ECC

- 14.) RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the following appointment, effective July 1, 2022:

Aleksandar Kondovski, CPA
Montclair U.
BA – Accounting
Assistant BA/Accountant
Salary: \$60,000.00 + benefits

- 15.) RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves a maternity/family leave request for Rael Rodriguez, Lindbergh School teacher, effective September 2022. Ms. Rodriguez intends to return to district January 2023.

16.) RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the appointment of Andrew Garcia, Jr/Sr High School Principal, effective July 1, 2022. Salary: \$120,500.00.

17.) RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the following list of CST members and aides working in the ESY programs:

Aides:

ECC- Mayra Bermeo, Eileen Shelton, Kenya Tavares (until July 15), Jessie Takeall, Rebeca Lopez, Daysi Rojas, Victoria Hernandez, Rosario Dovale (\$15.00/hour x 4 hours)

Lindbergh- Linda Koutros, Julia Panchi, Marissa Sperlazzo, Martha Baretto, Viclissa Trinidad, Rosa Sanchez (\$15.00/hour x 4 hours)

PPHS- Hasije Bruka, Estephani Hernandez
(\$15.00/hour x 4 hours per diem)

Out of District- Tia Szewczyk, Jessenia Camilo, Mildred Morales, Richard McGaw
(\$20.00/hour x 4 hours per diem)

Transportation

Drivers- Maleni Tavares, Jessie Takeall, Julio Corredor (\$22.00/hour)

Aides- Rosa Sanchez, Victoria Hernandez, Mayra Bermeo (\$20.00/hour)

Child Study Team

OT- Kristin Ellingsen (*\$50 per hour, providing services during ESY, until July 8th*)

Speech- Shannon Fallon (*\$50 per hour, providing services during ESY*)

Speech- Lisa Yee (*\$1030 per week, requesting one week*)

Behaviorist- Luis Penalillo (*\$1030 per week, requesting four weeks*)

Social Worker- Abigail Lopez (*\$1030 per week, requesting three weeks*)

School Psychologists- Songul Bayram, Nael Llaverias, Julia Lee (*\$1030 per week, requesting three weeks each*)

LDTTC- Beth Van Alstine (*\$1030 per week, requesting one week*)

18.)_ RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the following appointment, effective 09/01/22:

Clara (YeonGyeong) An
The College of New Jersey
MA – Early Childhood Education
And Special Education
PreK 3 Teacher @ ECC
Step 3 MA - \$60,095.00

Moved by Eun Min, second by John Mattessich, all ayes on roll call: 9 – 0 - with the exception of Personnel Resolution #16. Soo Chung, Kevin Lim, Charlie Shin vote No on the appointment of the Jr/Sr High School Principal. Resolution #16 was approved by a 6 – 3 vote.

Report of the Curriculum Committee – Mr. Peter Longo, Chairman

There was a performance at Lindbergh School by “Woorigarak Korean Cultural Art Center”. The organization supports Asian culture through dance performances.

PTA/PTSA Liaison – Mrs. Soo Chung, Chairperson

Mrs. Chung is expecting receipt of the accounts from the former PTA/PTSA officers. She is working very hard to organize these groups and recruit new members.

New Business:

RESOLVED that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the submission of lead testing results (Garden State Environmental Services) to the State by the June 30, 2022 deadline.

Moved by John Mattessich, second by Jason Kim, all ayes on roll call: 9 – 0

Charlie Shin inquired about school safety. Dr. Cirillo met with Capt. Espino regarding the local police department’s involvement in our school security. An SRO will be assigned beginning September 2022. The district did have 2 – Class III officers, but both left. The district does employ UFS Personnel. There are 3 security guards – one at each school location.

Audience Participation:

Dr. Matarazzo opened the meeting to audience participation.

Audience Participation:

Elsa Wadja, staff member, thanked the Board for the appointment of Mr. Garcia as the new high school principal.

Neris Papoters, resident/parent, inquired regarding the qualifications of the new HS principal. Also, remarked that there should be more transparency when making such an important appointment.

Lee Musler, staff member, remarked that the high school staff has been waiting a long time for a man of this caliber (Mr. Garcia) to lead the high school staff and students.

Will Hutchinson, staff member, the teachers and students respect Mr. Garcia.

Maureen Tansey , employee and resident, remarked that she has full faith in Mr. Garcia and his ability to lead the high school in the future.

Andrew Garcia, thanked everyone for their support. He hopes he can be the leader that the district needs at this time.

Charlie Shin, board member, stated that he volunteered for his position in order to improve the school district. "We may disagree, but we all want the same thing – the best for our students and our teachers."

Dr. Cirillo – resumes are not the most important component when selecting a candidate for a certain position. Job performance is most important. "What you see on paper is not always what you get in person."

Mr. Garcia has been an administrator for many years. He has held the position of "summer school" principal for 5 years. He is a teacher, a lead teacher, the Supervisor of the English & History departments . He has been with the district for 19 years, and is the "best fit" for our high school.

Kevin Lim, board member, did not receive Mr. Garcia's resume in a timely manner. It is too much to absorb in such a short period of time.

Motion by John Mattessich, second by Anieska Garcia, all eyes on roll call to close audience participation. 9 – 0

The Board convened in closed session to review two HIB Investigative Reports on May 4th & May 6th 2022.

They will vote on both incidents when the meeting reopens in public session.

Closed Session: Redacted

Closed Session:

Motion to open closed session: John Mattessich, second by Anieska Garcia, all ayes on roll call.

Review of 2 HIB investigations:

Incident #1: May 4, 2022 – Incident found to be inconclusive due to conflicting interviews.

Incident #2: May 6, 2022 – Incident determined to be bullying. HIB substantiated.

Move to re-open the meeting in public: Anieska Garcia, second by Jason Kim, all ayes on roll call.

Open Session:

Motion by Anieska Garcia, second by Jason Kim, all ayes on roll call to affirm the decision of the HIB investigation (Incident #1) as inconclusive. 9 – 0

Motion by Jason Kim, second by Anieska Garcia, all ayes on roll call to affirm the decision of the HIB investigation (Incident #2) - HIB was found to be substantiated. 9 – 0

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn moved by John Mattessich, second by Eun Min, all ayes on roll call.