

Saddle River Board of Education Regular Business Meeting Minutes

Wandell School Library, Wednesday, March 18, 2020, 3:00pm

A. Call to Order

The Board of Education, Borough of Saddle River, met in a Regular Business Meeting on Wednesday, March 18, 2020 in the Library, 97 E Allendale Road, Saddle River, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Mr. Peros, President of the Board.

B. Opening Statement

Statement is hereby made that adequate notice of this meeting was given by:

- Posting written notice prominently on the bulletin board in the Office of Wandell School, 97 E. Allendale Road, Saddle River, New Jersey.
- The mailing and/or hand delivery of said notice to the designated newspapers, The Record, The Ridgewood News, and The Town Journal.
- Filing with the Clerk of Saddle River Borough.

C. Roll Call

	Present	Absent
Mr. Peros	<u>X</u>	_____
Ms. Elshami	<u>X</u>	_____
Ms. Kaufman	<u>X</u>	_____
Ms. Nissirios	<u>X</u>	_____
Ms. Salazer	<u>X</u>	_____

D. Flag Salute

E. Superintendent's Report

- District Goals Update
- HIB report - #1 for 2019-20

Dr. Cinotti provided and update regarding the HIB report

F. Vice Principal's Report

- Presentation:
 - Spring 2019 NJSLA Science Scores

Dr. Cinotti reported the Science Scores in the absence of Mr. Stokes

G. Business Administrator's Report

- Preliminary 2020-21 Budget Presentation
- Bond sale

Dr. Kuchar spoke about the tentative budget numbers for the upcoming 20-21 school year and the final bond sale

H. Board President's Report

Mr. Peros thanked Ms. Kleinbard for organizing Read Across America. He congratulated all the middle school and High School Saddle River Students who made honor roll this most recent marking period. He spoke about the standard 2% tax increase for next year's budget and the increase to staffing. Mr. Peros spoke about dealing with the difficult situation of the Coronavirus and said that all BOE meetings will be done remotely until such time that the restrictions are lifted.

I. Committee Report(s)

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Communications/Public Relations | 6. Negotiations |
| 2. Curriculum/Instruction | 7. Policy |
| 3. Facilities | 8. Technology |
| 4. Finance | 9. Transportation |
| 5. Human Resources | 10. Safety/Wellness |

Committee chairs updated the public in areas noted above

J. Liaison Report(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Mayor & Council | 4. Ramsey BOE |
| 2. NJ School Boards Association Representative | 5. PAWS |
| 3. Northern Highlands BOE | 6. Wandell School Education Foundation |

Liaisons updated the public in areas noted above

K. Open Public Meetings Act

Meetings of the Board are open to the public and all members of the community should feel free to participate:

- There are two portions of the meeting reserved for comments from the public; the first at the beginning of the meeting for agenda items only and the second at the end of the meeting for other items.
- If you wish to address the board, please provide your name and address and please limit your comments to 3 minutes.
- Issues raised by the public may or may not be responded to by the board, but all comments will be considered. The board requests that all members of the public be mindful of the rights of other individuals when speaking. Due to confidentiality and legal rights afforded by the state of New Jersey, members of the public are asked to not speak negatively or in a derogatory manner about any employee of the board or any student.

L. Questions or Comments from the Public on Action Items Only

none

M. Minutes

- **Approval of Minutes**

M-1: Approval of Minutes – Closed/Executive Session Meeting

Be it resolved, that the Board approve the minutes of the February 12, 2020 meeting.

M-2: Approval of Minutes – Regular Business Meeting

Be it resolved, that the Board approve the minutes of the February 12, 2020 meeting.

Motion: EK

Second: YE

Discussion: none

Roll Call Vote

ES: Y

YE: Y

EK: Y

EN: Y

JP: Y

Motion passed 5-0

N. Action Items

- **Administration**

A-19200301: Transportation Services Agreement – South Bergen Jointure Commission 2020-21

Be it resolved, that the Saddle River Board of Education does hereby approve an agreement with the South Bergen Jointure Commission, an approved Coordinated Transportation Services Agency, for the purposes of transporting students in accordance with Chapter 53, P.L. 1997 for the next school year. The services to be provided include, but are not limited to, the Coordinated Transportation of nonpublic, out of district special education, vocational and summer programs. Be it further resolved: That the Saddle River Board of Education agrees to abide by the Transportation Services Agreement as published by the South Bergen Jointure Commission and attached to this resolution.

A-19200302: Transportation Services Agreement – Region 1/Mahwah Board Of Education 2020-21

Be it resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Saddle River Board of Education does hereby approve an agreement with the Region 1/Mahwah Board of Education, a Coordinated Transportation Services Agency, for the purpose of transporting students in accordance with Chapter 53, P.L. 1997 for the next school year. The services to be provided include, but are not limited to, the coordinated transportation of public, nonpublic and special education students. Be it further resolved: That the Saddle River Board of Education agrees to abide by the Transportation Services Agreement as published by the Region 1/Mahwah Board of Education and attached to this resolution.

<i>Motion:</i>	<i>ES</i>	<i>Second:</i>	<i>YE</i>	<i>Discussion:</i>	<i>none</i>
<i>Roll Call Vote</i>		<i>ES:</i>	<i>Y</i>	<i>YE:</i>	<i>Y</i>
				<i>EK:</i>	<i>Y</i>
				<i>EN:</i>	<i>Y</i>
				<i>JP:</i>	<i>Y</i>

Motion passed 5-0

- **Human Resources**

HR-19200301: Hire Substitute Teachers/Substitute Teacher Aides 2019-20

Be it resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent the Saddle River Board of Education approves the hiring of the following, as a substitute teacher/substitute teacher aide.

- Lucineia Ponzini

HR-19200302: Maternity Leave Extension 2019-20

~~Be it resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Saddle River Board of Education approves the extension of the maternity leave for Employee #15066, effective March 31, 2020 - May 18, 2020 by using 4 paid sick days for March 31, 2020 - April 3, 2020 and FMLA/NJFLI leave from April 6, 2020 - May 18, 2020.~~

HR-19200303: Leave Replacement Teacher Extension 2019-20

Be it resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Saddle River Board of Education approves the extension of Kaitlin Menhinick, as maternity leave replacement for Employee #15066 effective March 31, 2020 - May 18, 2020, at the pay rate of \$100/day, pending criminal history/background check; benefits will not be provided.

HR-19200304: Employee Extended Sick Extension 2019-20

Be it resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Saddle River Board of Education extends the paid sick leave for Employee #23, effective March 9, 2020 through approximately March 31, 2020 utilizing 17 days of accumulated sick time.

HR-19200305: Employee Extended Sick Leave Replacement Extension 2019-20

Be it resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Saddle River Board of Education approves the extension of Sophia Logothesis, as a leave replacement for Employee #23, effective March 9, 2020 through approximately March 31, 2020 at the pay rate of \$100/day, pending criminal history/background check; benefits will not be provided.

HR-19200306: Employee Salary Guide Placement Adjustment 2019-20

Be it resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Saddle River Board of Education approves the adjustment of the salary guide placement for Employee #15156 to BA+15, Step 2, at the prorated salary of \$57,411 effective of the original date of hire of January 2, 2020.

Motion: EK Second: YE Discussion: none
Roll Call Vote ES: Y YE: Y EK: Y EN: Y JP: Y
Motion passed 5-0

- **Education**

E-19200301: Non-Resident Tuition Student 2020-21

Be it resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Saddle River Board of Education approves the following non-resident tuition students at the approved rate of \$17,500 for the next school year, to be paid in two installments on July 1 and January 1.

- Student #10675 - Grade 3

Motion: ES Second: YE Discussion: none
Roll Call Vote ES: Y YE: Y EK: Y EN: Y JP: Y
Motion passed 5-0

- **Finance**

F-19200301: Finance & Operations

Be it resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Saddle River Board of Education approves the following:

- Payment of Bills February 2020
- Board Secretary Report January 2020 & February 2020
- Treasurer Report January 2020 & February 2020

F-19200302: Tentative Budget 2020-21

Be it resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Saddle River Board of Education hereby approves the tentative Saddle River School District Budget for submission to the Bergen County Executive Superintendent of Schools as follows:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Budget/Total Revenues</u>	<u>Local Tax Levy</u>
General Fund	\$9,968,421	\$8,981,020
Special Revenue Fund <i>(federal grants)</i>	\$94,892	\$0
Total Base Budget	\$10,063,313	\$0
Debt Service Fund	\$385,419	\$267,825
Total 2020-21 Budget	\$10,448,732	\$9,248,845

Note:

- Debt Service is the money owed to pay the interest and principle of a bond
- \$385,419 is the total debt service on the 2015 & 2020 Referendum bonds for FY2021, inclusive of the \$267,825
- The State of NJ provides \$117,594 on the 2015 Referendum for the FY2021. Therefore, the taxpayer portion of the debt service for the FY2021 is \$267,825.
- For FY2022, the state portion of the debit service will include the 2020 Referendum

Included in budget line 620, Budgeted Withdrawal from Capital Reserve – Excess Costs & Other Capital Projects is \$120,000 for other capital costs related to NJ Clean Energy light replacements, parking lot paving, and parking lot lights upgrades. The total cost of these projects is \$120,000 which represents expenditures for construction elements or projects that are in addition to the facilities efficiency standards determined by the Commissioner as necessary to achieve the New Jersey student learning standards.

F-19200303: Maximum Travel & Expense Reimbursement 2020-21

Be it resolved, that the Saddle River School Board of Education, as required by NJAC 6A:23-1.2, NJAC 23A-7.3 and Board Policy #9250, shall establish in the annual school budget a maximum expenditure amount that may be allotted for such travel and expense reimbursement for the 2020-21 school year; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Saddle River Board of Education hereby establishes the school district travel maximum for the 2020-21 school year in the sum of \$10,000; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the School Business Administrator shall track and record these costs to ensure that the maximum amount is not exceeded.

F-19200304: Travel

Be it resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Saddle River Board of Education approves the following staff/administration travel requirements (room rate accommodations, occupancy taxes/fees presently unknown associated therein and other costs in trips. Meals for overnight will be reimbursed in accordance with policy/law):

Who	What	Where	When	Registration Fee
Glenn Stokes	The Visible Learning Institute	Mahwah, NJ	April 29, 2020	\$399.00

F-19200305: NJ Clean Energy Application

Be it resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Saddle River Board of Education approves the NJ Clean Energy application.

F-19200306: Classroom Window Replacement

Be it resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Saddle River Board of Education approves replacement of classroom windows in the North Hallway by RIS Construction Corp. not to exceed \$25,510, with funds to be used from Capital Reserve.

F-19200307: Extraordinary Aid Award: 2018-19

Be it resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Saddle River Board of Education approves the appropriation of excess extraordinary aid in the amount of \$15,540 into the 2019-20 school district budget for contracted services, due to the 2018-19 Extraordinary Aid that was previously received in the amount of \$65,540, which was more than the \$50,000 budgeted for the 2018-19 school year.

F-19200308: ESEA Amendment Carryover Funds 2018-19

Be it resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Saddle River Board of Education approves carryover funds of \$10,000, for the ESEA grant application to be appropriated in the 2019-20 budget.

Motion: EK Second: YE Discussion: none
Roll Call Vote ES: Y YE: Y EK: Y EN: Y JP: Y
Motion passed 5-0

O. Old Business**P. New Business****F-19200309: Authorization for Board Secretary to Pay Bills**

Be it resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Saddle River Board of Education authorizes the Board Secretary to pay bills in between meetings of the Board of Education from March 18, 2020 through June 30, 2020 and that these payments be approved at the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting.

Motion: EK Second: YE Discussion: none
Roll Call Vote ES: Y YE: Y EK: Y EN: Y JP: Y
Motion passed 5-0

A- 19200303: Authorization for remote meetings

Be it resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Saddle River Board of Education authorizes remote meetings in light of the coronavirus.

Motion: EK Second: YE Discussion: none
Roll Call Vote ES: Y YE: Y EK: Y EN: Y JP: Y
Motion passed 5-0

Q. Questions or Comments from the Public on Other Items

none

R. Board Member Comments

Ms. Elshami thanked teachers and administrators for a fantastic job transitioning to remote learning as well as thanking Ms. Kleinbard for opening the library on Friday and allowing the students to take out as many books as they wanted in light of the remote learning.

Ms. Kuafman second that comment

S. Executive Session

Ms. Elshami made a motion to adjourn to executive, second by Ms. Kaufman. All in favor. No action will be taken.

T. Adjournment

Motioned at 4:54 at Ms. Salazer second by Ms. Elshami second. All in favor: