

**Saddle River Board of Education**  
**Regular Business Meeting Minutes**  
Wednesday, December 14, 2022 at 7:30 PM  
Wandell School Cafeteria

A. Call to Order    *The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Kaufman, Board Vice-President, at 7:32 PM.*

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 vestibule 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

1. *Dr. Cinotti reiterated the intensive instructional work the staff has been implementing. She stated this is an incremental explosion...that takes time. She then thanked Ms. Budds & Dr. Penna for their schoolwide gathering assemblies, where the whole school comes together for a schoolwide meeting.*
2. *Dr. Cinotti provided an update on the district's revised Safe Return to In-Person Instruction Plan, which is a requirement for the receipt of federal funds. This includes continuing handwashing procedures, detailed cleaning of the building, maintenance of the HVAC system, and parent screening at home.*
3. *Dr. Cinotti gave a presentation on the district's NJSLA 2022 Score Comparison with neighboring districts.*
4. *Dr. Cinotti provided an update on district goals with a handout to the board.*
5. *HIB Report- none*

F. Vice Principal's Report

1. *Mrs. Hickey provided an update on curriculum and school events.*
  - a. *Mentioned was the Toys for Tots drive with the Saddle River Police Department.*
2. *Mrs. Hickey thanked:*
  - a. *The teaching staff for their enthusiasm in implementing new techniques.*
  - b. *The Board for their support in funding curriculum initiatives.*
  - c. *Mr. Moylan for his work with the Holiday Concert.*
  - d. *Ms. Kim for the beautiful students' artwork displayed around the school.*
  - e. *The Foundation for funding various field trips and assemblies.*
  - f. *The work of the Peer Leaders during assemblies.*

**G. Business Administrator/ Board Secretary's Report**

1. *Acceptance of correspondence.*
2. *Ms. Lawler stated the Board Finance Committee will meet with the auditors for the 2021-22 exit conference next week.*
3. *Ms. Lawler mentioned under the finance agenda included final payments for the masonry project funded by the 2020 referendum and the server room installation which is part of the district's capital projects.*

**H. Board President's Report          *None at this time.*****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 on the areas noted above.*

**J. Liaison Report(s)**

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

*Liaisons updated the public on the 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**

*Opened at 8:05PM, no comments on action items from the Public at this time. Closed 8:06 PM.*

M. Minutes

## Approval of Minutes

M-1: Approval of Minutes for Regular Business Meeting

Be it resolved that the Board approves the minutes of the November 9, 2022 regular meeting.

M-2: Approval of Minutes for Executive Session Meeting

Be it resolved that the Board approves the minutes of the November 9, 2022 closed/executive session meeting.

*Motion: YE Second: ES Discussion: N/A*  
*Roll Call Vote EK: Y YE: Y EN: Absent ES: Y JP: Absent*  
*All Motions Passed: 3-0*

N. Action Items

- Administration**

A-22231201: Submission & Approval of the Updated Safe Return to In-Person Instruction Plan 2022-23

Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Saddle River Board of Education approves the submission of the updated Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services to the NJDOE, pending NJDOE approval.

A-22231202: Graduate Course Approval & Tuition Reimbursement

Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Saddle River Board of Education approves tuition courses, pending the submission of a grade of "B" or better, per official transcripts, as follows and reimbursement will be in accordance with the employee contract language for graduate course reimbursement:

<u>Staff</u>	<u>Course</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>College/Univ.</u>	<u>To Be Taken</u>	<u>Actual Cost</u>	<u>Not to Exceed</u> *22/23 rate* (maximum remaining allowable contract amount)	<u>School Year</u>
Employee # 15170	Financial Management I	3	Ramapo College	Winter/Spring 2023	\$3,349.41	\$2,301.18	22-23

*Motion: YE Second: EK Discussion: N/A*  
*Roll Call Vote EK: Y YE: Absent EN: Y ES: Y JP: Absent*  
*All Motions Passed: 3-0*

- Human Resources - None at this time**

- Education**

E-22231201: Student Evaluations for the 2022-23 School Year

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

<u>Student</u>	<u>Type of Evaluation</u>	<u>Provider</u>	<u>Estimate Cost</u>
A0086	Neurological	Dr. Poorvi Patel	\$450.00
A0087	Neurological	Dr. Poorvi Patel	\$450.00

*Motion: YE Second: ES Discussion: N/A*  
*Roll Call Vote EK: Y YE: Y EN: Absent ES: Y JP: Absent*

*All Motions Passed: 3-0*

- **Finance**

**F-22231201: Finance & Operations**

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

- Payment of Bills December 2022
- Board Secretary Report November 2022
- Treasurer Report November 2022
- Transfer Report November 2022

**F-22231202: Annual Check Cancellation 2021-22**

Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Saddle River Board of Education approves any outstanding checks from the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, as presented to the Board.

**F-22231203: Critical Response Group 2022-23**

Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Saddle River Board of Education approves the collaboration with the Critical Response Group along with other Bergen County Districts for the countywide initiative to map all schools for safety/security measures, where the first year is grant funded and thereafter is approximately \$525/year/school.

**F-22231204: Spartan Construction Masonry Project Change Orders**

Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Saddle River Board of Education approves the list of change orders from Spartan Construction, in conjunction with Solutions Architect, the Saddle River Board of Education Architect of Record, for the masonry project, funded by the 2020 Referendum, as presented:

Original Contract Amount:	\$193,000
Change Order Amount:	-\$295
Total Cost:	\$192,705

**F-22231205: Masonry Project Payment to Spartan Construction Inc.**

Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Saddle River Board of Education approves the final payment of \$95,311.47 (\$77,700.50 & \$17,610.97) to Spartan Construction, Inc. for the masonry project, funded by the 2020 Referendum, which has been reviewed and certified by Solutions Architecture.

**F-22231206: Shared Service Agreement with the Borough of Saddle River Fiscal Year 2023**

Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Saddle River Board of Education approves the shared service agreement with the Borough of Saddle River for the provision of public works services with the commencement date of January 1, 2023, for an annual sum to be paid in full by July 1, 2023, pending a mutually agreed upon amount.

**F-22231207: Proposal for Electrical Testing Services 2022-23**

Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Saddle River Board of Education approves the proposal for thirty (30) days of electrical testing services by CMS Electric, LLC, to address the ongoing electrical issues, for a cost not to exceed \$10,275, funded by the facilities budget.

**F-22231208: Server Room Project Payment to New Era Technology**

Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Saddle River Board of Education approves the payment of \$44,233.99 to New Era Technology for the completion of the new server installation, funded by Capital Reserve.

**F-22231209: Travel**

Be it resolved 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	Estimated Registration Fee
Roberta Kleinbard	NJASL Annual Conference 2022	Hard Rock Hotel Atlantic City, NJ	12/4-12/6/22	\$322
Cathie Mende Karolina Weber	Embracing the Whole Child: Promoting Social Emotional Learning	Ramapo College Mahwah, NJ	3/13/23	\$290
Roberta Kleinbard	NJ Assoc. for the Gifted Child Conference 2022-23	Mercer County Community College Windsor, NJ	3/17/23	\$199

**F-22231210: Donation Acceptance for 2022-23**

Be it resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Saddle River Board of Education approves the following field trip donations from the Wandell School Education Foundation for:

- Medieval Times (Grade 5) = \$2,351.55
- Buehler Science Center (Grade 4 & 5) = \$1,235
- Healthbarn USA (Grade 4 & 5) = \$1,105

*Resolutions: F-22231201-05; 07-10: Motion: YE Second: EK*

*Discussion: Ms. Kaufman thanked the Foundation for funding field trips for Wandell students. Ms. Kaufman mentioned how for a few years the students were unable to attend field trips and it is nice now that the students can go on trips with the generous support of the Foundation.*

*Roll Call Vote EK: Y YE: Y EN: Absent ES: JP: Absent*

*All Motions Passed: 3-0*

*Motion to amend Resolution F-22231206 to the following:*

**F-22231206: Shared Service Agreement with the Borough of Saddle River Fiscal Year 2023**

Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Saddle River Board of Education approves the shared service agreement with the Borough of Saddle River for the provision of public works services with the commencement date of January 1, 2023, for an annual sum of \$18,000 to be paid in full by July 1, 2023.

*Amendment Motion: ES Second: EK Discussion: N/A*

*Roll Call Vote EK: Y YE: Y EN: Absent ES: JP: Absent*

*All Motions Passed: 3-0*

*Resolution: F-22231206: Motion: YE Second: EK Discussion: N/A*

*Roll Call Vote EK: Y YE: Y EN: Absent ES: JP: Absent*

*All Motions Passed: 3-0*

O. Old Business N/A

P. New Business N/A

**Q. Questions or Comments from the Public on Other Items**

*Opened at 8:08 PM, no comments from the Public at this time. Closed 8:09 PM.*

**R. Board Member Comments**

*Ms. Elshami mentioned how she has heard students discuss how excited and engaged they were with the field trip to the Buehler Science Center as well as departmentalization in fourth & fifth grades. Ms. Elshami stated the impact translates all the way down. Also, Happy Holidays.*

S. Executive Session    *No Executive Session.*

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231 of the Laws of 1975 provides that a public body may exclude the public from that portion of a meeting of which the public body discusses certain matters for which confidentiality is required as permitted in Section 7B of the act.

WHEREAS, the items that are permitted to be discussed in executive session are as follows:

1. a matter rendered confidential by federal or state law
2. a matter in which release of information would impair the right to receive government funds
3. material the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy
4. a collective bargaining agreement and/or negotiations related to it
5. a matter involving the purchase, lease, or acquisition of real property with public funds
6. protection of public safety and property and/or investigations of possible violations or violations of law
7. pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiations and/or matters of attorney-client privilege
8. specific prospective or current employees unless all who could be adversely affected request an open session
9. deliberation after a public hearing that could result in a civil penalty or other loss

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education will be discussing items \_\_\_\_\_.

Action may (or may not) take place on these items. The matters discussed in executive session shall be disclosed to the public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

T. Adjournment            *Motion:*            *YE*        *Second:* *ES*        *Vote:*    *3-0*        *Time:* *8:10 PM*