

SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Public Meeting Minutes
December 16, 2021

Dr. Kulikowski called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School Auditorium, 667 Westfield Road, Scotch Plains.

Members Present Mrs. Amy Boroff
 Mrs. Karen Mitchell
 Ms. Stephanie Suriani
 Ms. Amy Winkler
 Mr. Evan Murray, Vice President
 Dr. Karen Kulikowski, President

Members Absent Ms. Nancy Bauer
 Ms. Deb Brody
 Ms. Tonya Williams

Others Present Joan Mast, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
 Robert A. McGarry, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent of
 Curriculum and Instruction
 Christopher Jones, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
 Jeanne Cleary, Director of Operations and Special Projects
 James Canellas, Assistant Business Administrator/
 Assistant Board Secretary
 Douglas Silvestro, Esq., Board Attorney

Members Absent Peter N. Pitucco, Director of Human Resources
 Lisa Rebimbas, Director of Special Services

Motion by Mr. Murray, seconded by Mrs. Boroff at 7:01 p.m., that the Board of Education adopts the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education must discuss subjects concerning committee selections, HIB, Suspensions/Detention Report, and Legal Status Report, and committee members and officers for the Board of Education

WHEREAS, the aforesaid subjects are not appropriate subjects to be discussed in a public meeting; and,

WHEREAS, the aforesaid subjects to be discussed are within the exemptions which are permitted to be discussed and acted upon in private session pursuant to P.L. 1975, Chapter 231,

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED that the aforesaid subjects shall be discussed in private recess by this Board and administrative staff, and information pertaining thereto will be made available to the public as soon thereafter as possible and once the reasons for non-disclosure no longer exist.

Carried 6-0-0

The meeting returned to public session at 7:32 p.m.

Members Present Mrs. Amy Boroff
 Mrs. Karen Mitchell
 Ms. Stephanie Suriani
 Ms. Amy Winkler
 Mr. Evan Murray, Vice President
 Dr. Karen Kulikowski, President

Members Absent Ms. Nancy Bauer
 Ms. Deb Brody
 Ms. Tonya Williams

Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Kulikowski reported that committee selections, HIB, Suspensions/Detention Report, Legal Status Report, and committee members and officers for the Board of Education were discussed.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Mast acknowledged the multimedia chatter about threats to school with assistance from Mrs. Jeanne Cleary, addressed managing an increasing COVID-19 rate, staffing, and instruction with support from Dr. Robert McGarry, and mentioned the revised guidelines by the Department of Health with clarification from Douglas Silvestro, Esq.

Business Administrator's Report

Christopher Jones gave an update on transportation and potential enrollment increase due to new housing units.

Board President Announcement

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted at the Board of Education offices located at 512 Cedar Street, Scotch Plains, New Jersey. Such notice was also provided in written notice forwarded to the *Times*, now known as the *Union County Hawk*, the *Star Ledger*, the Township Clerk of Scotch Plains and the Borough Clerk of Fanwood in the revised Annual Notice of Regularly Scheduled Meetings as adopted September 1, 2021.

Instructional Updates

- Nettingham Middle School Blue Notes
- Recognition of Girls Gymnastics Team’s Winning Season

Motion by Dr. Kulikowski, seconded by Mr. Murray, that the Board of Education adopts the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the 2021 Varsity Gymnastics Team had one of the most remarkable seasons in the history of Gymnastics at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School; and,

WHEREAS, the team placed 6th overall at the Team Gymnastics State Championships held at Brick Memorial High School on November 11th; and,

WHEREAS, the team traveled to St. Thomas Aquinas High School for the North II Sectional Championship Meet on November 6th and earned the first North II Sectional Title since 1993, outpacing Westfield by a score of 108.775 to 108.375; and,

WHEREAS, on October 21st, the Raiders hosted the Union County Gymnastics Championships for the second straight year and won their third consecutive County Championship by setting a school record with a team score of 110.05; and,

WHEREAS, the 2021 Gymnastics Team was comprised of the following athletes:

Ella Burgio	Grade 10	Erin Kennedy	Grade 10
Taylor Clement	Grade 10	Ava Leonetti	Grade 11
Shaylin Farley	Grade 11	Kelsie Lubalin	Grade 10
Ava Fazio	Grade 10	Kayla Morrow	Grade 12
Andy Ferguson	Grade 9	Eva Pereira	Grade 10
Lauren Fitzgerald	Grade 12	Jordana Reisberg	Grade 11

Jessica Gallagher	Grade 11	Ashley Sekiya	Grade 10
Jessica Glander	Grade 11	Heather Sherman	Grade 10
Sofia Heta	Grade 9	Sarah Sicoli	Grade 10
Mary Katherine Hoffman	Grade 9	Tamyra Singletary	Grade 12

WHEREAS, the Varsity Gymnastics Team exhibited outstanding talent, dedication, and teamwork throughout the season and was led by Head Coach Marissa DiBella and Assistant Coach Tara Bozetarnik. This team received well-deserved recognition from fellow students, staff, and the Scotch Plains-Fanwood communities for their outstanding efforts and accomplishments.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education recognizes and congratulates the 2021 Varsity Gymnastics Team and their Coaches Marissa DiBella and Tara Bozetarnik for their outstanding achievements and wishes them continued success in all future endeavors.

Carried 6-0-0

The meeting was open for public comments at 8:06 p.m.

Julio Gomez, SP Exclusion of students who are COVID close contacts.

Public comments ended at 8.12 p.m.

Committee Reports

Community Relations - Report by Ms. Brody, read by Mr. Murray

Curriculum - Report by Ms. Suriani

Facilities - Report by Mr. Murray

Finance - Report by Ms. Brody, read by Mr. Murray

Strategic Planning - Update by Dr. Kulikowski

Letters to the Board

Eight letters and emails were received from the public. The appropriate administrator responded.

Board Motions

CURRICULUM REPORT

Motion by Mr. Murray, seconded by Ms. Suriani, that the Board of Education:

1-C approves the following SY2021-2022 Out of District Placement and changes in Out of District placement:

Case	Classification	Placement	Cost
13-03	AUT	DLC	Tuition - \$69,593.60, Aide - \$50,702.22 Total Cost - \$120,295.82 Previously Approved \$105,949.68
20-19	MD	Banyan School	1:1 Aide Cost - \$26,460, additional Previously Approved Tuition - \$40,073.04
21-11	ERI	Cranford Achieve.	Tuition - \$41,557.16

and

2-C approves the superintendent's decisions in the following HIB cases discussed in Executive Session on November 18, 2021. One of the cases was determined to be HIB.

105-2021-01
060-2122-03

and

3-C acknowledges receipt of the Bi-Annual Report of Gifts to District Schools submitted by Evergreen and McGinn.

and

4-C approves the submission of the Five Year Preschool Program Operational Plan, Early Childhood Program Aid (ECPA) and Early Launch to Learning Initiative (ELLI) districts grant to the New Jersey Department of Education.

and

5-C approves the changes to and addition of the following courses:

Course Name	Action
CADD I	Changed to Drafting & Design
CADD IV	Changed to Architectural Design
Robotics	Proposed New Course
Supplemental Reading Comprehension I and II	Proposed New Course
Supplemental Reading Decoding I and II	Proposed New Course

Carried 6-0-0

1-PERS Motion by Ms. Winkler, seconded by Mrs. Boroff, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent’s recommendations for personnel on the Personnel Report dated December 16, 2021 in the areas noted below:

1. Retirements
2. Resignations/Terminations
3. Appointments
4. Change of Status
5. Leaves of Absence
6. Longevity
7. Sixth Period Assignments
8. Co-Curricular Appointments
9. Temporary Transfer
10. Auxiliary Employment
11. Auxiliary Athletic Events Personnel
12. Substitute Staff as needed for 2021-2022 School Year

Carried 6-0-0 on a roll call vote

Business Report

Motion by Mr. Murray, seconded by Mrs. Mitchell, that the Board of Education:

1-BUS approves the staff training report dated December 16, 2021:

Scotch Plains-Fanwood Public Schools
Board Approval for Staff Training and Seminars, Conventions and Conferences
Board Meeting: December 16, 2021

Number Attending	Conference Title	Dates Location	Anticipated Reimbursement	Purpose	Date of Request	Date of Board Approval
* Expenses may exceed state and federal reimbursement guidelines + How will this activity promote the delivery of instruction, improvement of curriculum, or further district goals?						
One	74th Annual Eastern Athletic Trainers' Association Annual Meeting and Clinical Symposium	Jan. 7-10, 2022 Foxwoods - Connecticut Sponsor: Eastern Athletic Trainers' Association	\$160.00 (registration for 4 day meeting/symposium)	Attend Annual Eastern Athletic Trainers' Association Meeting and Clinical Symposium to learn skills for practicing Athletic Trainers.	Nov. 30, 2021	Dec. 16, 2021
One	American Football Coaches Association National Convention	Jan. 9-11, 2022 San Antonio, TX Sponsor: American Football Coaches Association	\$40.00 (registration for 3 day convention)	Attend American Football Coaches Association National Convention.	Nov. 30, 2021	Dec. 16, 2021
One	2022 Society of Health and Physical Educators New Jersey (SHAPE) Annual Convention	Feb. 14-16, 2022 Long Branch, NJ Sponsor: SHAPE NJ	\$249.00 (registration for 3 day convention)	Attend 2022 Society of Health and Physical Educators New Jersey Annual Convention.	Nov. 30, 2021	Dec. 16, 2021

and

2-BUS approves the Nonpublic School Security and Technology Initiative Program Agreements for the following participating schools within this district:

Scotch Plains Baptist Day School Security	\$1,400
Scotch Plains Baptist Day School Technology	320
JCC of Central New Jersey Technology	800

and

3-BUS approves the following related service vendor for 2021 ESY:

Related Service	Service Provider	Rate
Occupational Therapy	True North Theraplay	\$ 83/hour
Home Instruction	Learnwell	54/hour
Home Instruction	Stepping Forward	75/hour
Home Instruction	Educere	249-\$1,249/Course
Neurological Evaluation	Dr. Kavita Sinha	425/evaluation-revised
Educational/Psychological	UCESC	420/evaluation

and

4-BUS approves the lease purchase of 15 bundle packs of ten, 10.2-inch iPads, Wi-Fi, 64GB with Logitech Combo 3 case, and 4-Year AppleCare+ in the amount of \$70,942.50. Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ), Apple Contract # 1062153, CID #676274, CLM #288313, Customer BID #: ESCNJ 18/19-67 (Expires 5/12/2023). Purchased in October 2021.

and

5-BUS approves the lease purchase of a bundle pack of ten, 10.2-inch iPad Wi-Fi 64GB with case, smart connector keyboard and 4-Year AppleCare+ in the amount of \$4,729.50. Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ), Apple Contract # 1062153, CID #676274, CLM #288313, Customer BID #: ESCNJ 18/19-67 (Expires 5/12/2023).

and

6-BUS approves the lease purchase of 120 bundle packs of ten, 10.2-inch iPads, Wi-Fi, 64GB with case, smart connector keyboard and 4-Year AppleCare+ in the amount of \$567,540.00. Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ), Apple Contract # 1062153, CID #676274, CLM #288313, Customer BID #: ESCNJ 18/19-67 (Expires 5/12/2023).

and

7-BUS approves Purchasing Agreement with Alliance for Competitive Energy Services (ACES).

and

8-BUS approves the following Change Orders and Final Payment for the SPFHS HVAC Project:

Bid	1,935,000.00
Contingency	125,000.00
Alt 2 - 148, 149, Trainer Office	85,000.00
Alt 3 Gymnasium	270,000.00
Alt 4 Band and Choral Room	223,000.00
Alt 5 Health, Attendance SPED	135,000.00
Total Initial cost	2,773,000.00
Item	Amount
Electrical	4,870.95
Time Only	-
Maintenance	48,272.84
Dance Studio	56,441.79
2nd Floor	16,922.26
Platform	9,790.00
December 30, 2019 Credit	(5,000.00)
Total Change Orders	131,297.84
Reduction of Contingency	12,600.00
- Approved 1/3/19 Meeting	
Contingency	(125,000.00)
Net Change Orders	18,897.84
Total (initial plus COs)	2,791,897.84

To complete the project, request for an additional \$18,900 to be withdrawn from Capital Reserve. (previously approved at the 3/28/19 meeting)

and

9-BUS pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-10(a) and N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.29(c), and based upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator /Board Secretary, the Board of Education, by this resolution and without advertising for bids, authorizes purchases of goods and services from Dyntek relating to hardware, software, maintenance, and professional services for telecom up to \$100,000. The award of contract is based upon the following pricing as obtained through the competitive Bid NJSBA #E-8801-ACES-CPS.

and

10-BUS approves the disposal of books at Brunner and Terrill Middle School libraries as requested.

and

11-BUS approves the Insurance Archeology Group (IAG) Historic Research Proposal for professional fees in the estimated amount of \$12,500 for Phase 1.

and

12-BUS acknowledges receipt of the district schools Security and Fire Drill Reports for the month of November 2021.

and

13-BUS acknowledges receipt of Board Secretary's Reports, Treasurer of School Funds Reports, and Budget Adjustments - shifted to January 20 meeting.

and

14-BUS acknowledges receipt of the following disbursement listings dated November, 2021 - shifted to January 20 meeting.

and

15-BUS approves bills for the period of November 13, 2021 through December 10, 2021 in the amount of \$4,560,306.33.

and

16-BUS approves the following purchases:

- a) The purchase of Special Education Transportation for Out-of-District students through the Union County Educational Services Commission at a cost of \$3,320,074.31. Funds to be withdrawn as follows:
 - \$1,235,643.00 withdrawn from 2020-2021 Excess Extraordinary Aid
 - \$2,084,431.31 withdrawn from the operating account

- b) The purchase of Special Education Transportation for Out-of-District students management fee through the Union County Educational Services Commission at a cost of \$84,421. Funds to be withdrawn as follows:
- \$46,299 withdrawn from 2020-2021 Excess Extraordinary Aid
 - \$38,122 withdrawn from the operating account

and

17-BUS appoints Methfessel & Werbel, P.C., as special counsel to the Board, relative to the continued and future handling of the litigation in the matter of C.L. v. Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education, UNN-3737-21, at an hourly rate of \$185.00 for partners/counsel, \$160.00 for associates and \$65.00/hour for paralegals.

and

18-BUS approves amending the Long Range Facility Plan to include the following:

- Enrollment growth expansion
- Pre-K enrollment expansion
- District wide drainage

and

19-BUS approves agreement between Scotch Plains-Fanwood Public Schools and Center for Pediatric Therapy therapist (parent) for reimbursement of private oral therapy for 45 minutes once a week at the rate of \$148.

and

20-BUS approves the Sidebar Classroom Aide Stipend Agreement where the Classroom Aides will receive additional compensation at the rate of \$50.00 per day for assigned coverage of said teaching duties.

and

21-BUS approves the Sidebar High School Drop Down Schedule/Sixth Period for a Special Education Teacher Stipend Agreement where the teacher will be compensated at the sixth period teaching rate for providing supplemental reading instruction for a small group of students based on the IEP at the end of the school day.

and

- 22-BUS approves the Ross Haber and Associates Proposal to perform a demographic facility analysis for the district in the amount of \$6,500 for Professional Services. Funds will be withdrawn from the Capital Reserve.

Carried 6-0-0

Other Board Business

Liaison Reports

Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation (TRHT) - update by Ms. Suriani

NJ School Boards Association - update by Mrs. Boroff, Mrs. Mitchell

SP-F Shared Services - update by Ms. Winkler

Union Co. School Boards Assoc. - update by Ms. Winkler

Garden State Coalition (GSCS) - update by Ms. Winkler for Ms. Bauer

Minutes

Motion by Mr. Murray, seconded by Ms. Winkler, that the Board of Education approves the Minutes listed below:

1. November 11, 2021- Open Agenda Meeting - Executive Session
2. November 11, 2021 - Open Agenda Meeting
3. November 18, 2021 - Regular Public Meeting - Executive Session
4. November 18, 2021 - Regular Public Meeting

Carried 6-0-0

The meeting was open for public comments at 8:59 p.m.

There were no comments.

Good Of The Order

Mrs. Boroff Happy Holidays and New Year! Excited about attending the first Special Education Parent Advisory Group (SEPAG) meeting on November 23, 2021. Each school will have a PTA liaison with SEPAG.

Mrs, Mitchell Another reminder for students to use crosswalks. Happy Holidays!

Ms. Winkler Attended Raider Robotics Competition that we hosted for the first time. Ranked 9th out of 45 teams.

Dr. Mast Dr. Carol Choi, former superintendent, generously bequeathed \$55,000 to The Scholarship Fund.

Ms. Suriani Thank you for the Blue Notes coming out tonight. Also, Terrill's 7th and 8th grade Chorus Concert last night Wonderful to hear music in our schools. Good Luck to Nettingham in their concert next week.

Motion by Mrs. Boroff, seconded by Mr. Murray at 9:06 p.m., that the Board of Education adjourns.

Carried 6-0-0


Christopher Jones
Board Secretary