

**CLOSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Closter, New Jersey**

AGENDA  
REGULAR MEETING  
Tenakill Middle School  
January 2, 2020  
7:30 PM

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The Board meeting was called to order by Mr. Gregg Lambert at 7:48PM

The following Board members were present:

Mr. Linn, Ms. Finkelstein, Ms. Sung Min Lee, Ms. Bhagat, Ms. Kothari,  
Mr. Lambert, Ms. Cross, Ms. Micera

The following Board members were absent:

Ms. Kwon

Also present: Mr. McHale and Mr. Villanueva

NEW JERSEY OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT - Read by the President:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meeting of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Secretary to the Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting by having the date, time, and place thereof, posted at each school building within the district, the Board of Education office, the Office of the Borough Clerk, and transmitted to *The Record* and *Northern Valley Suburbanite* newspapers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. McHale reported the following items to the board:

- Hillside Elementary School emergency closing on 12/19/2019. Mr. McHale thanked the administrators and staff of HES in ensuring that all students are safe.
- The first *Conversations with the Superintendent* will take place on Tuesday, 1/7/2020.
- Parents and community members are invited to attend the continuing series of engagement sessions sponsored by the Northern Valley Curriculum Center. Session for K-4 parents on 1/13 and 5-8 parents on 1/27.
- Schools will be closed for students on Monday, 1/20.

January 2, 2020

MINUTES

Moved by Ms. Micera seconded by Ms. Lee to approve the December 12, 2019 minutes. Motion was approved by voice vote of the Board.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION on AGENDA ITEMS

Moved by Ms. Micera, seconded by Ms. Kothari to open the meeting to the public.

*Statements made by individual participants are limited to a duration of three (3) minutes unless otherwise announced at the beginning of the discussion. The Board urges large groups to select one person to represent them. The Board reminds those individuals who take the opportunity to speak to please step up, identify themselves by name and address, and to limit their comments to items listed on the agenda.*

Moved by Ms. Micera, seconded by Ms. Finkelstein to resume the regular order of business.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE

Moved by Ms. Finkelstein, seconded by Ms Micera to approve Motions A-B. Motions were approved by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS: Mr. Linn, Ms. Finkelstein, Ms. Sung Min Lee, Ms. Bhagat, Ms. Kothari,  
Mr. Lambert, Ms. Cross, Ms. Micera  
NAYS: None

A. **APPROVAL - Staff Coursework**

Motion to approve the following courses for 2019-2020 as recommended to the Superintendent by the Principals:

Staff Member: Kristen Haenelt  
Course No./Title: HLTH 643: Graduate School Nurse/Health Education  
Practicum  
Institution: New Jersey City University  
Credits: 6

B. **APPROVAL - Staff Conferences**

Motion to approve the following staff conferences:

Staff Member/s: Kate Maher  
Conference: DEAC  
Location: Tenakill  
Date: 1/8/20  
Cost to Board: \$45.00 (half-day sub)

FINANCE AND PHYSICAL PLANT COMMITTEE

Moved by Ms. Kothari, seconded by Ms. Micera to approve Motions A-D.  
Motions were approved by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS: Mr. Linn, Ms. Finkelstein, Ms. Sung Min Lee, Ms. Bhagat, Ms. Kothari,  
Mr. Lambert, Ms. Cross, Ms. Micera  
NAYS: None

A. **APPROVAL - Monthly Bills**

Motion to approve payment of bills from December 13, 2019 to January 2, 2020  
in the amount of :

General Fund (Fund 10)	\$1,705,382.33
Special Revenue (Fund 20)	\$ 24,645.32
TOTAL	\$1,730,027.65

B. **APPROVAL – Tuition Contracts for Received Students**

Motion to approve tuition contracts for received students as outlined below for  
2019-2020 school year:

NJSMART#	Tuition \$	Program/Gr.	District
2139435137	\$11,942.70	GR4 LLD	Alpine

C. **APPROVAL – Special Education Placements**

Motion to approve the following 2019-2020 Special Education placements for  
Closter students:

NJSMART#	Tuition \$	Grade	Placement
8310099361	\$45,911.40	Grade K	Valley

D. **APPROVAL - Use of Facilities**

Motion to approve the following organizations to use Hillside Elementary School and Tenakill Middle School:

- Closter PTO ASEP Spring Program - January 2020 to April 2020.
- Closter Recreation Department - January 2020 to April 2020.
- The Korean School of New Jersey - February 2020 to June 5, 2020.
- Closter PTO ASSP program additional dates: February 27, 28, March 5 and 6, 2020.

**PERSONNEL AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Moved by Ms. Bhagat, seconded by Ms. Micera to approve Motions A-E. Motions were approved by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS: Mr. Linn, Ms. Finkelstein, Ms. Sung Min Lee, Ms. Bhagat, Ms. Kothari,  
Mr. Lambert, Ms. Cross, Ms. Micera  
NAYS: None

A. **APPROVAL - Substitute Teachers**

Motion to approve the following substitute teachers for the 2019-2020 school year:

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Certification</u></b>
Joseph Weil	NJ Substitute Certificate

B. **APPROVAL - Student Field Work**

Motion to approve Margaret Johnston, student at Rockland Community College, for occupational therapist field work experience in Hillside School from 1/13/20 - 3/13/20.

C. **APPROVAL - Retirement of Teacher**

Motion to approve, with regrets, the retirement of Claire Collins as an elementary school teacher effective July 1, 2020.

D. **APPROVAL- Change of Hours for Paraprofessionals**

Motion to approve the revision of hours for the 2019-2020 school year for the following Paraprofessionals:

- Joseph Bonasorte from 4.84 hours to 4.5 hours
- Gabriella Sloezen from 5.75 hours to 5.5 hours

E. **APPROVAL - Resignation**

Motion to approve, with deepest regrets, the resignation of the following Paraprofessionals:

- Ana Beronio - Hillside Elementary School as of January 3, 2020
- Barbara Ferguson - Hillside Elementary School as of January 24, 2020

**POLICY COMMITTEE**

Moved by Ms. Micera, seconded by Ms. Finkelstein to approve Motion A.

Motion was approved by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS: Mr. Linn, Ms. Finkelstein, Ms. Sung Min Lee, Ms. Bhagat, Ms. Kothari,  
Mr. Lambert, Ms. Cross, Ms. Micera

NAYS: None

A. **Approval - Second Reading of Policies #6164.6 Tutoring and #4138.2 Private Tutoring**

Motion to approve second reading of policies #6164.6 Tutoring and #4138.2 Private Tutoring.

**BOARD COMMITTEES**

Mr. Lambert requested the trustees to let him know of any committee that they wish to be a member of.

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Villanueva reported the following items:

- Thanked the board members for completing their mandated training.
- To be on alert for the School Ethics Commission email to complete their personal/financial disclosure form.
- The Commissioner of Education approved the request to use the emergency reserve for Special Education cost.

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

Moved by Ms. Micera, seconded by Ms. Kothari to open the meeting to public discussion.

Moved by Ms Micera, seconded by Ms. Finkelstein to close the meeting to public discussion.

CLOSED SESSION MOTION

**The board did not convene for a closed session.**

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Ms. Micera, seconded by Ms. Kothari to adjourn the meeting at 8:03PM.

Respectfully,



Floro Villanueva, Jr.  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

January 2, 2020