

CLOSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Closter, New Jersey

AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING

Tenakill Middle School

January 21, 2021 - 7:30 PM

Call to order: _____ @ _____ *P.M.*

<i>Roll Call:</i>	Ms. Bhagat	_____
	Ms. Kothari	_____
	Ms. Kwon	_____
	Ms. Lee	_____
	Mr. Linn	_____
	Ms. Micera	_____
	Ms. Puttannah	_____
	Ms. Cross	_____
	Ms. Finkelstein	_____

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, remote access information, and place thereof, posted at each school building within the district, district website, the Board of Education office, the Office of the Borough Clerk, and transmitted to *The Record* and *Northern Valley Suburbanite* newspapers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRINCIPALS' REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

SSDS - Reporting Period 1 (HIB Incidents Reporting)

PUBLIC DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ 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. A maximum of 15 minutes for public input is scheduled as per policy 1120. 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 _____, seconded by _____ to resume the regular order of business.

BOARD OPERATIONS

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ to approve Motions A - B.

Motions were _____ by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS:

NAYS:

A. **APPROVAL - Minutes**

Motion to approve the following minutes:

- January 4, 2021 Reorganization Meeting
- January 4, 2021 Regular Meeting

B. **RESOLUTION - School Board Recognition**

WHEREAS, The New Jersey School Boards Association has declared January 2021 to be School Board Recognition Month, a time when all residents can acknowledge the contributions made by our local school board members; and

WHEREAS, The Closter Board of Education is one of 580 local school boards in New Jersey, which sets policies and oversees operations for public school districts; and

WHEREAS, The Closter Board of Education embraces the goal of high-quality education for all New Jersey public school students; and

WHEREAS, The Closter Board of Education helps determine the educational goals for approximately 1200 children in pre-Kindergarten through 8th grade; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey’s 5,000 local school board members, who receive no remuneration for their services, act as advocates for public school students as they work with administrators, teachers and parents for the betterment of public education; and

WHEREAS, School boards strive to provide the resources necessary to meet the needs of all students, including those with special needs; and

WHEREAS, Boards of education provide accountability to the public; they communicate the needs of the school district to the public; and they convey to school administrators the

public's expectations for the schools; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey can take pride in its schools, which rank among the nation's best in key achievement indicators such as the National Assessment of Educational Progress scores, and the preparation for college through advanced placement offerings and SAT assessments; Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Closter Board of Education, does hereby recognize the services of our local school board members as we join communities statewide in observing January 2021 as SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Closter Board of Education urges all New Jersey citizens to work with their local boards of education and public school staff toward the advancement of our children's education.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE

Chairperson Ms. Lee, Ms. Puttanniah

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

YEAS:

NAYS:

A. **APPROVAL - Staff Coursework**

Motion to approve the following virtual courses for 2020-2021 as recommended to the Superintendent by the Principals:

Staff Member: Sarah Kang
Course No./Title: 15:253:539:90 Methods for Teaching & Assessing English
Language Learners
Institution: Rutgers
Credits: 3

Staff Member: Mary Lotito
Course No./Title: EDUC 713J Motivating Students Who Don't Care
Institution: LaVerne University
Credits: 3

Staff Member: Meghan Pleus
Course No./Title: EDUC 713J Motivating Students Who Don't Care
Institution: LaVerne University
Credits: 3

Staff Member: Daniella Riecken
Course No./Title: TECH-913 The Interactive Class (Book Application)

Institution: Fresno Pacific University
Credits: 3

Staff Member: Laura Abbey
Course No./Title: ATH-903 Coaching: Leadership and Team Cohesion
Institution: Fresno Pacific University
Credits: 3

B. APPROVAL - Staff Conferences

Motion to approve the following staff conferences:

Staff Member(s): Alexandra Earle
Conference: Anti-Bullying Specialist Certificate Program - Legal One & NJPSA
Location: Virtual
Date: January 27 and March 5, 2021
Cost to Board: \$500.00

Staff Member(s): Margaret Churchill, Sarah Kang, Eileen Kennedy, Kathy Lee
Conference: NJTESOL/NJBE 2021 Virtual Spring Conference
Location: Virtual
Date: May 24, 26 and 27, 2021
Cost to Board: \$897.00 (paid for by Title III funds)

FINANCE AND PHYSICAL PLANT COMMITTEE

Chairperson Ms. Kwon, Ms. Finkelstein, Ms. Kothari

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ to approve Motions A - E.

Motions were _____ by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS:

NAYS:

A. APPROVAL - Monthly Financials and Certification

Motion to approve the following items as required, pursuant to NJSA 18A:17-9 and NJAC 6:20-2.13, as per Appendix A attached:

- a. Board Secretary and School Treasurer Financial Reports for December 2020.
- b. Board of Education's Monthly Certification of Budgetary Major Account /Fund status for December 2020.
- c. Transfer of funds for December 2020.

B. **APPROVAL - Monthly Bills**

Motion to approve payment of bills from January 5, 2021 to January 18, 2021 in the amount of:

General Fund (Fund 10)	\$819,972.74
Special Revenue (Fund 20)	\$ 4,053.79
06/30/2020 Quarter End Unemployment	\$ 2,763.59
Total	\$826,790.12

C. **APPROVAL - Staff Remuneration**

Motion to approve remuneration to staff members as follows:

Staff Member: Andrea Watkins
Course: Language Acquisitions & Language Disorders
Remuneration: \$153.00 (remainder of her 2020-2023 3-year option money)

Staff Member: Jaime Caruso
Course: School Health Services I
Remuneration: \$1,000.00

Staff Member: Alexandra Earle
Course: Student Mobility: Supporting New Students
Remuneration: \$381.65

Staff Member: Brittany Steele
Course: Foundations of Masters Studies in Education
Remuneration: \$1000.00

D. **APPROVAL - Renewal of Participation in SEHBP**

Motion to approve, the **Resolution** authorizing the renewal of the participation in School Employees Health Benefits Program of the State of New Jersey, attached hereto as Appendix B.

E. **APPROVAL - Pre-School Tuition Rates**

Motion to approve the following tuition rates for the 2021-2022 school year:

Pre-School Full Day Program \$10,800.00
PSD Voluntary Half-Day Extension \$ 8,100.00

PERSONNEL AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chairperson Ms. Bhagat, Ms. Cross, Mr. Linn

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ to approve Motions A - I.

Motions were _____ by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS:

NAYS:

- A. **APPROVAL - Mentor for Provisionally-Licensed Teacher for 2020-2021 School Year**
Motion to approve Amy Kenny-Whritenour as a mentor to Erica Kauffman and James lafrate. Mentor will be paid by the provisional teachers.
- B. **APPROVAL - Report of Paraprofessional Staff SOA - Period 2**
Motion to approve the Report of Paraprofessional Staff SOA, due January 31, 2021.
- C. **APPROVAL - Custodial Staff**
Motion to approve Agustina Rosemary Guillon as custodian for the 2020-2021 school year at a salary of \$40,575, Step 1, starting February 1, 2021.
- D. **APPROVAL - Overtime Compensation**
Motion to approve additional overtime compensation, not to exceed \$3,000, to Ralph Chappell for the remainder of SY 2020-2021.
- E. **APPROVAL - Long-Term Leave Replacement - Speech Language Specialist**
Motion to approve Alicia Cahill as Long-Term Leave Replacement - Speech Language Specialist - from February 11, 2021 (2 days prior to Ms. Schettino's departure) through May 14, 2021. Salary will be \$200 per day on days 1 through 10; the beginning of day 11, MA Step 0, \$59,714.00 pro-rated, pending a criminal history background check.
- F. **APPROVAL – Academic Support Program Staff**
Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following teachers for the Academic Support Program at a rate of \$50.00/hour per teacher funded by the CARES Act:
- Kathleen Finnegan - 32 sessions (30 minutes/session) replacing Min Jeong Kim
- G. **APPROVAL – Vickie Solomon - Clerical Paraprofessional**
Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Vickie Solomon as Clerical Paraprofessional for the 2020-2021 school year, 5.75 hours per day, effective February 1, 2021.

- H. **APPROVAL - James lafrate - M.S. Social Studies Teacher**
 Motion to approve James lafrate as Long-Term Leave Replacement - M.S. Social Studies Teacher - at 0.75 FTE - from February 1, 2021 through the end of the school year. Salary will be \$150 per day on days 1 through 10; the beginning of day 11, \$38,388.00 pro-rated.

- I. **APPROVAL - Audrey Friel - Leave of Absence**
 Motion to approve a paid leave of absence for Audrey Friel beginning January 18, 2021 through February 22, 2021 with the use of 20 sick days, 0.5 personal days and 2.5 banked sick days, and an unpaid leave of absence using FMLA beginning February 23, 2021.

POLICY COMMITTEE

Chairperson Ms. Micera, Ms. Kothari

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ to approve Motion A.
 Motion was _____ by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:
 YEAS:
 NAYS:

- A. **APPROVAL - Second Reading of Policy #8420 Operation and Crisis Situations**
 Motion to approve the second reading of Policy #8420 Operation and Crisis Situations, as per Appendix C.

BOARD COMMITTEES

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ to open the meeting to public discussion.

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ to close the meeting to public discussion.

CLOSED SESSION MOTION (If required)

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ to approve the following Closed Session Motion. Motion was _____ by a voice vote of the Board:

YEAS:

NAYS:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Closter Board of Education will adjourn to a Closed Session to discuss the following:

(If required)

The matters so discussed will be disclosed to the public as soon as and to the extent that such disclosure can be made without adversely affecting the public.

The Board went into Closed Session at _____ PM.

The Board reconvened from Closed Session at _____ PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ to adjourn the meeting at _____ PM.