

CLOSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Closter, New Jersey

AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING

Tenakill Middle School

January 30, 2024 - 7:30 PM

Call to order: _____ @ _____ P.M.

Roll Call:

Mr. Choi	_____
Ms. Fanelli	_____
Ms. Kwon	_____
Ms. Li	_____
Ms. Micera	_____
Ms. Wagner	_____
Ms. Yeoh	_____
Ms. Salamea-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, 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 (Student Safety Data System) for Part I of 2023-2024 School Year

BOARD COMMITTEES

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 bylaw 0167. 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 - F.

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

YEAS:

NAYS:

- A. **APPROVAL - Minutes**
Motion to approve the January 3, 2024, Organization and Regular meeting minutes.

- B. **APPROVAL - Revision of Previously Approved Minutes**
Motion to revise the previously approved minutes of September 13, 2023, to include the actual numbers of the Student Safety Data System Reporting for Period 2.

- C. **APPROVAL - Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying (HIB)**
Motion to affirm the decision of the Superintendent of Schools regarding Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying (HIB) incidents numbers TMS-2324-15, TMS-2324-16, TMS-2324-17 and TMS-2324-18 reported to the Board in Executive Session at the January 3, 2024, meeting.

- D. **APPROVAL - Memorandum of Agreement between the Closter Police Department and the Closter School District for the 2023-2024 School Year**
Motion to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Closter Police Department and the Closter School District for the 2023-2024 School Year.

- E. **APPROVAL - Paraprofessional Staff Statement of Assurance- Part II of SY 2023-2024**
Motion to approve Statement of Assurance Regarding the Use of Paraprofessional Staff for the second half of school year 2023-2024.

F. **RESOLUTION - School Board Recognition**

WHEREAS, The New Jersey School Boards Association has declared January 2024 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 581 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, New Jersey's local school boards help determine the educational goals for approximately 1.4 million children in pre-kindergarten through 12th 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 local school board members throughout New Jersey as we join communities statewide in observing January 2024 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. Wagner; Members: Ms. Salamea-Cross, Ms. Yeoh

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

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

YEAS:

NAYS:

A. **APPROVAL - Staff Coursework**

Motion to approve the following courses for 2023-2024 as recommended to the Superintendent by the Principals:

Staff Member: Grace Park
Course No./Title: Structured Literacy II
(not eligible for reimbursement-funded by scholarship)
Institution: Fairleigh Dickinson University
Credits: 3

Staff Member: Katharine Meyers
Course No./Title: Structured Literacy II
(not eligible for reimbursement-funded by scholarship)
Institution: Fairleigh Dickinson University
Credits: 3

Staff Member: Wendy Bajakian
Course No./Title: EDUC 715G ADD/ADHD Strategies & Intervention for the Classroom
EDUC 718S Mindful Teachers; Mindful Students
Institution: University of LaVerne
Credits: 6 (3 credits each)

Staff Member: Silvia Jost
Course No./Title: EDUC 715G ADD/ADHD Strategies & Intervention for the Classroom
EDUC 718S Mindful Teachers; Mindful Students
Institution: University of LaVerne
Credits: 6 (3 credits each)

Staff Member: Catherine Ricca
Course No./Title: EDUC 715G ADD/ADHD Strategies & Intervention for the Classroom
EDUC 718S Mindful Teachers; Mindful Students
Institution: University of LaVerne
Credits: 6 (3 credits each)

Staff Member: Amanda Cummings
Course No./Title: TECH 919: Show & Tell: Digital Artifacts of Student Learning
Institution: Fresno Pacific University
Credits: 3

B. **APPROVAL - Staff Conferences**

Motion to approve the following staff conferences:

Staff Member(s): Alexandra Earle
Conference: BCSCA K-8 Meeting
Location: Westwood Regional Middle School
Date: 3/15/24
Cost to Board: \$0

Staff Member(s): Lori Cohen
Conference: NJPSA Workshop
Location: Remote
Date: Self-Paced
Cost to Board: \$75.00

C. **APPROVAL - Field Trips**

Motion to approve the following field trips:

School: Tenakill Middle School
Group: TEP 7 and TEP 8
Month: February 2024
Destination: Demarest Middle School
Location: Demarest, NJ

School: Tenakill Middle School
Group: Orchestra
Month: March 2024
Destination: Bridgewater / Raritan Middle School
Location: Bridgewater, NJ

FINANCE AND PHYSICAL PLANT COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Ms. Yeoh; Members: Mr. Choi, Ms. Finkelstein, Ms. Kwon

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

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 2023.

- b. Board of Education’s Monthly Certification of Budgetary Major Account /Fund status for December 2023.
- c. Transfer of funds for December 2023.

B. APPROVAL - Payment of Bills

Motion to approve the payment of bills from January 1, 2024 to January 30, 2024, in the amount of:

General Fund (Fund 10)	\$ 2,107,058.78
Special Revenue (Fund 20)	\$ 35,105.57
Capital Projects (Fund 30)	\$ 308,640.45
Enterprise (Milk – Fund 60)	\$ 1,090.42
State of NJ Division of Employer Accounts	\$ 48.30
Total	\$ 2,451,943.52

C. APPROVAL - Staff Remuneration

Motion to approve remuneration to staff members as follows:

Staff Member: Rachel Fineman
 Course: School Finance
 College/University: Montclair State University
 Remuneration: \$1,000.00

D. APPROVAL - Renewal of Participation in SEHBP

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

E. APPROVAL – Special Education Placements

Motion to approve the following 2023-2024 Special Education placements for Closter Students:

<i>NJSMART#</i>	<i>Tuition</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Placement</i>
6416941621	\$25,923.92	5th	Valley TIP

F. APPROVAL – Acceptance of NJ Learning Acceleration Program: High Impact Tutoring Grant

Motion to approve the acceptance of the NJ Learning Acceleration Program: High-Impact Tutoring Grant for for maximum funding amount of \$67,680.

PERSONNEL AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Ms. Salamea-Cross; Members: Ms. Fanelli, Ms. Micera

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

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

YEAS:

NAYS:

- A. **APPROVAL - Rosaria Sarra as Bass ABA Therapist for Student ID #361001**
Motion to approve Rosaria Sarra as the parent-paid Bass ABA Therapist for Student #361001 for the 2023-2024 school year. A criminal history background check is on file in the board office.

- B. **APPROVAL - Kathy Wellenkamp-Keller as PLUS Teacher for Remainder of 2023-2024 School Year**
Motion to approve the appointment of Kathy Wellenkamp-Keller as Hillside Elementary School's PLUS Teacher for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year.

- C. **APPROVAL - Black Seal License Training for Mayuli Copeland**
Motion to approve the black seal license training for Mayuli Copeland for 90 days under the supervision of Joseph Scaglione.

- D. **APPROVAL - Substitute Teachers/Paraprofessionals/Custodians**
Motion to approve the following substitute teachers for the 2023-2024 School Year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Certification</u>
Catherine Gordon	Substitute Certificate
Randi Lehrfeld	Substitute Certificate
Lucas Mattes	Substitute Certificate
Daniel Menendez	Substitute Certificate

- E. **APPROVAL - Long-Term Leave of Absence for Judith Lagomarsino**
Motion to approve a long-term leave of absence for Judith Lagomarsino, Grade 5 Teacher, from January 22, 2024, through February 23, 2024, using her sick days, with an anticipated return to work on February 26, 2024.

- F. **APPROVAL - Phyllis Viole as Long-Term Leave Replacement - Grade 5**
Motion to approve Phyllis Viole as Long-Term Leave Replacement - Grade 5 Teacher (J.L.) - from January 22, 2024, through February 23, 2024. Salary will be \$200 per day on days 1 through 10; the beginning of day 11, \$62,000, MA Step 0, prorated. A background check is on file in the board office.

G. **APPROVAL - Resignation of Andrew Galinac**
Motion to accept the resignation of Andrew Galinac, Custodian, effective February 16, 2024.

H. **APPROVAL - Long-Term Leave of Absence for Brenda Kahn**
Motion to approve a long-term leave of absence for Brenda Kahn, TMS Library Media Specialist, from January 24, 2024, through February 29, 2024, using her sick days, with an anticipated return to work date of March 1, 2024.

I. **APPROVAL – Hillside Elementary School Academic Support Program Staff**
Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following staff for Hillside Elementary School Academic Support Program (funded by American Rescue Plan Grant) at a rate of \$50.00/hour per staff:

- Lauren Finan
- Kaitlyn Yu

APPROVAL - XXXXXXXX as Custodial Staff

Motion to approve XXXXXXXX as full-time custodian for the 2023-2024 school year at a prorated salary of XXXXXXXX, Step X, plus a \$100 differential for holding a Black Seal Fireman's License, with an anticipated start date of XXXXXXXX.

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:

**HIB
Personnel Matter
Legal Matter**

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.