

October 20, 2022 Board Meeting

- 1.) **President Calls the Meeting to Order – 7:00 p.m.**
- 2.) **Flag Salute**
- 3.) **Roll Call**
- 4.) **Statement of Presiding Officer**
- 5.) **Report of the Board President**
- 6.) **Report of Superintendent – Test Score Presentation – Mr. Garcia, Mr. Phalon, Student Recognitions (National Merit Scholarship, NJSLA)**
- 7.) **Report of the Board Attorney – PPSA Contract Language, PPAA Signatures**
- 8.) **Minute Approval: August 31, 2022 (posted on the website)**
- 9.) **Committee Reports:**

Finance: Kevin Lim- Staff workshops, H.S. Student Activities Account, Tuition Reimbursement, Payroll, Food Service vouchers, M-1 & Comprehensive Maintenance Plan, Bill List, Monthly Financial Reports

Buildings & Grounds: Charlie Shin – Active Shooter Drills (12/27 & 12/28)

Personnel: Eun Min- Resignation (1), Option II Personnel, Mentoring Program, Kindergarten Teacher, After-School Program Sub, P/T Custodian (HS), Teacher of Mathematics (HS)

Curriculum: Peter Longo

Negotiations: John Mattessich/Anieska Garcia-

Policy: Anieska Garcia – Policy 5131.1 HIB Update

PTA/PTSA Liaison: Soo Chung –

Student Activities/Field Trips: Eun Min - Field Trip- Library (10/25), Italia Trip (4/6 – 4/15/23)

- 10.) **Old Business:**
- 11.) **New Business: Submission of HIB Assessments, Submission of QSAC – DPR's/SOA's, HVAC Bid Recommendations**
- 12.) **Audience Participation: Limited to 3 minutes per participant (Policy #9322)**
- 13.) **Closed Session – Other Matters**
- 14.) **Adjournment**

Regular Meeting

October 20, 2022

The Board met in a regular meeting on Thursday, October 20, 2022 commencing at 7:00 p.m.

Location: Early Childhood Center, 270 First Street, Palisades Park, NJ.

The assemblage saluted the flag.

Statement of Presiding Officer : In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, I hereby state that adequate notice of this Regular meeting has been provided to the public by written notice dated January 18, 2022.

The Meeting has been:

- Emailed to all staff members
- Communicated to at least one of the Board's designated newspapers
- Filed with the Borough Clerk of Palisades Park

Roll Call: T. Matarazzo, E. Min, S. Chung, A. Garcia, K. Lim, P. Longo, J. Mattessich, C. Shin
Dr. Cirillo, Alek Kondovski, Sarah Kim, Esq.

Jason Kim arrived at 7:10 p.m.

Board of Superintendent:

NJ State law dictates that within sixty (60) days of receiving test scores they must be provided to the public. Our test scores will be posted on the website after tonight's meeting. School principals, Andrew Garcia and Patrick Phalon, will present a power point presentation tonight on the district's test results.

Dr. Cirillo introduced the following students who achieved academic excellence in test assessments:

- Terra Han – Perfect score on the NJSLA. Terra is a freshman at Palisades Park Jr/Sr High School.
- Yeeun Park – National Merit Scholarship Recipient
- Jonathan H. Song – National Merit Scholarship Recipient

The other commended students who could not be present tonight are: John L. Kang, Sojung Kim, and David Yu.

Dr. Cirillo turned the meeting over to Mr. Garcia and Mr. Phalon for a brief presentation. Any questions regarding the presentation will be addressed at the end of tonight's meeting.

Report of the Board Attorney:

Ms. Kim is completing the contract language for the PPSA and the PPAA agreements. She is also waiting for signatures on both contract agreements.

Minute Approval:

Mr. Mattessich moved to accept the August 31, 2022 board minutes, seconded by Ms. Garcia. All ayes on roll call with the exception of Soo Chung who was not present at the August meeting.

The tests score presentation will be posted on the district’s website under “Academics”- 2022 B.O.E. Data Presentation

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee – Mr. Kevin Lim, Chairperson

- 1.) RESOLVED that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the following teachers’ workshops:

| <u>Staff Member</u> | <u>Description/Location</u> | <u>Date(s)</u> | <u>Cost</u> |
|---|--|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Mary DeBlasio Teacher of Italian | Incorporating STEM into teaching Italian/Montclair U. | 10/21/22 | \$ 80.00 |
| Debra Youmshakian Math/Science Supervisor | Bergen County Curriculum Consortium, Hackensack | 10/21, 12/06, 03/09, 06/05 | \$270.00 |
| Jennifer Tennant Curriculum Supervisor | Bergen County Curriculum Consortium | Same as Above | |
| Alexa Lewris Science Teacher | Liberty Science Center, JC Climate Change & Human Impact on Ecosystems | 12/01/22 | \$125.00 |

- 2.) RESOLVED that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent accepts the financial report for the High School student activities, month ending 09/30/22. (attached)

- 3.) RESOLVED that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves tuition reimbursement as follows:

Lisa Panchi
 Southern New Hampshire University
 “Strategies for Supporting Children with ADHD”
 “Take Control of RTI”
 “Special Education – The Process & Law”
 Total: 9 credits/\$627.00 per credit

- 4.) RESOLVED that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the 10/15/2022 payroll in the amount of \$841,020.37.

5.) RESOLVED that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the Food Service vouchers as follows:

| | | |
|---------------------|--|---------------------|
| • Pomptonian, Inc. | Request for Expenses W/E 9/9/22 | \$ 10,226.09 |
| • Pomptonian, Inc. | Request for Expenses W/E 9/16/22 | \$ 20,323.78 |
| • Pomptonian, Inc. | Request for Expenses W/E 9/23/22 | \$ 12,444.38 |
| • Pomptonian, Inc. | Request for Expenses W/E 9/30/22 | \$ 31,938.69 |
| • Pomptonian, Inc. | Request for Expenses W/E 10/7/22 | \$ 8,903.98 |
| • Global Industrial | Picnic Tables/Umbrellas – HS Courtyard | \$ 4,369.84 |
| • BugTech, Inc. | Pest Control LS/HS Cafeterias | \$ 208.00 |
| | | <u>\$ 88,414.76</u> |

(Note: "Request for Expenses" includes salaries/wages, taxes, insurances & supplies)

6.) RESOLVED that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the annual Comprehensive Maintenance Plan and the M-1 Form for submission to the Office of the County Superintendent.

7.) RESOLVED that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the October 2022 bill list in the amount of \$1,074,148.11.

- Fund 10 (General Current Expenses) \$793,052.18
- Fund 20 (Special Revenue) \$281,095.93

\$1,074,148.11

8.) RESOLVED that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent accepts the financial reports of the Business Administrator and Treasurer of School Moneys for the month ending 08/31/22.

Furthermore, the Board certifies that in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6:20-2A that no major fund or account in the 2022/23 budget has been over-expended in violation of 6:20A 10(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

9.) RESOLVED that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the attached list of budget transfers in accordance with Title 18A:22-8.1 and designates the Business Administrator to make budget transfers as necessary between monthly meetings of the Board of Education.

Note: Resolution #8. is tabled for further review.

Buildings & Grounds Committee – Mr. Charlie Shin, Chairman

- 1.) RESOLVED that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves a request from the Palisades Park Police Department for the use of Lindbergh Elementary School on Tuesday, December 27th from 12 Noon to 8:00 p.m. and the use of the High School facilities on Wednesday, December 28th from 12 Noon to 8:00 p.m. for active shooter drills.

Personnel Committee – Mrs. Eun Min, Chairperson

- 1.) RESOLVED that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent accepts the resignation of Frank Gaudio, Phys Ed Teacher (LS), effective 01/01/23.
- 2.) RESOLVED that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the appointment of the following teachers for the Option II After School Program at the Jr/Sr High School:

Lee Musler
Ive Pavin

\$36.00 per hour, Title I Funds

- 3.) RESOLVED that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the appointment of Lee Musler to work in the Mentoring Program at the Jr/Sr High School. \$36.00 per hour, Title I Funds.
- 4.) RESOLVED that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the following appointment, effective 10/24/2022:

Michelle Park
MA - Rutgers University
K-6 Education, Special Education K-12
Step 2 MA - \$59,595.00
Kindergarten Teacher

- 5.) RESOLVED that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the appointment of Shelia Nastasi, as a Substitute Teacher in the After School Programs.

6.) RESOLVED that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the appointment of Brian Garcia, Palisades Park, NJ as a part-time custodian at the Jr/Sr High School. \$15.00 per hour, effective 10/20/22.

7.) RESOLVED that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the following appointment at the Jr/Sr High School.

David Moralishvili
College of New Jersey
Teacher of Mathematics
Step 1 BA - \$56,030.00
Effective: 10/31/2022

Curriculum Committee – Mr. Peter Longo, Chairman

Mr. Longo met with Dr. Cirillo, the School Principals, and Curriculum Supervisor Jennifer Tennant to discuss variety of topics:

- Outdated Textbooks
- Censorship of Books
- Reinstatement of Phonics
- Updating the Science Labs
- Addition of Sign Language to our World Language Program

Report of the Policy Committee – Anieska Garcia, Chairperson

RESOLVED that the Palisades Park Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the **updated** Policy No. 5131.1 – Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying.

(The Policy will be posted on the website after its adoption by the BOE)

Note:

P.L. 2010, c.122 concerning harassment, intimidation, and bullying in school settings, amended various parts of the statutory law and supplements [N.J.S.A. 18A:37-13 et seq.](#) and

chapter 3B of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes. It created the "Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act" which is contained in [N.J.S.A. 18A: 37-13 through N.J.S.A. 18A:37-32](#).

[N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14](#), as amended by P.L. 2010, c.122 section 11, defines "harassment, intimidation or bullying" to include "any gesture, written, verbal or physical act, or any electronic communication, whether it be a single incident or a series of incidents, that is reasonably perceived as being motivated either by any actual or perceived characteristic, such as race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or a mental, physical or sensory disability, or by any other distinguishing characteristic, that takes place on school property, at any school-sponsored function, on a school bus, or off school grounds that substantially disrupts or interferes with the orderly operation of the school or the rights of other students.

Report of Student Activities – Eun Min, Chairperson

- 1.) RESOLVED that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves a Field Trip request for students in the Work Based Learning Program on October 25, 2022. Students will visit the Palisades Park Library. Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Cost per student: \$7.00 (lunch)

- 2.) RESOLVED that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves a Trip to Italia for students in AP Italian classes, Italian III classes and Italian Honor Society. Dates: April 6th – April 15th. (School is closed for Spring recess)

Students are responsible for their airfare, accommodations, and meals. A fixed price menu is available, as well as a special menu in case of allergies and other dietary restrictions.

Mrs. Min reported on the delegation that visited our high school on October 7th from "Gugak National High School" Seoul, South Korea. The group, which included 30 students, school principals and staff members, spent the day interacting with our school community. The visiting students performed traditional Korean dance and song.

Report of PTA/PTSA Liaison – Soo Chung, Chairperson

Mrs. Chung announced that the "new" PTA/PTSA will initiate a membership drive beginning tomorrow. Annual membership dues are \$10.00. Please support your local PTA.

New Business:

Every year school districts must submit a "School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act" (ABR). The deadline to submit the Self-Assessment is October 31, 2022.

- 1.) BE IT RESOLVED that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent submits the District's HIB Self-Assessment to the NJDOE.

Moved by: John Mattessich

Seconded by: Anieska Garcia

All ayes on roll call: Matarazzo, Min, Chung, Garcia, Kim, Lim, Longo, Mattessich, Shin

Under NJQSAC school districts are evaluated in five (5) key component areas:

- Instruction and Programs
- Governance
- Fiscal Management
- Personnel
- Operations

- 2.) BE IT RESOLVED that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the submission of the NJ QSAC District Performance Review (DPR) and the Statement of Assurance to the NJDOE.

Moved by: Anieska Garcia

Seconded by: Jason Kim

All ayes on roll call: Matarazzo, Min, Chung, Garcia, Kim, Lim, Longo, Mattessich, Shin

HVAC Bid Recommendations from Parete Somjen, the district's architects, were submitted to the Superintendent and the Business Administrator.

The HVAC project will address new school boilers, air-conditioning and pipe replacement. The upgrades came in below budgeted costs. The projects will be funded by federal grant money and capital outlay.

The submitted bid recommendations are tabled for further review by the Board's Attorney.

The Board President opened the meeting to audience participation. Dr. Cirillo will respond to all questions at the end of the public

Audience Participation:

- Mrs. Rivera inquired about uniformity in teaching in the same grade levels. Why some students are more advanced than others in the same subject areas?
- Mrs. Papoter inquired about the high school auditorium, and if it is now available for use? She thanked the Board for its transparency and for responding to questions from the public. She also asked that the public support the PTA during its membership drive.
- Mr. Rivera asked that the traffic cones be removed on Palisades Blvd adjacent to Lindbergh School. They present a driving hazard. Also, the lowest bid submitted for a project may not necessarily be the best.
- Joe Sperlazzo – has worked in the district for 32 years. Would like to be included in the boiler repair/replacement project, so that he can offer a “hands-on” opinion on any new equipment and materials.
- Mrs. Ramos – parent of a student at the ECC. Children are struggling with the reading program. She inquired about the possibility of reinstating a phonics-based curriculum for new readers.
- Mrs. Halic – concerned about inconsistencies in the curriculum in same grade classrooms. Also, a leave replacement teacher at Lindbergh School. Parents were not notified of the change.
- Question from a parent on whether Health/Sex Curriculum will be age appropriate.

Dr. Cirillo:

- Students learn on many different levels. There is a strong presence of multi-lingual students, and the district must address learning curves according to a student’s learning capacity.
- Clean bill of health for the high school auditorium. Asbestos abatement has been completed.
- Dr. Cirillo will contact the police department regarding traffic cones. The board does not employ crossing guards or traffic officers. That is the responsibility of the Borough.
- Parette Somjen, Architects said they did attempt to contact Mr. Sperlazzo, but were unable to reach him.
- Dr. Cirillo will inquire regarding why parents were not notified about the teacher replacement for a maternity leave.
- Dr. Cirillo will follow up with the State DOE about the possibility of reinstating a phonics-based curriculum.
- Heath/Sex education will be taught at an age-appropriate level. Parents do have the right to opt their child out of a program.

Motion by Anieska Garcia, seconded by Eun Min, all ayes on roll call to proceed to closed session for a personnel matter. The Board will not be resume in open session after the executive session concludes.