

SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION
500 Route 17 South, Suite 307
Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES (Virtual)
March 23rd, 2021

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

NJ OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to ensure 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 Business Administrator-Secretary has caused notice of this meeting to be sent to the following, announcing time and place thereof, agenda, etc.:

North Jersey Media Group

Notice of this meeting has been posted in the lobby of the Board of Education Office and at the Jointure Commission Public Schools. This is an official meeting of the Board of Education/ South Bergen Jointure Commission.

The meeting was called to order at 9:32 a.m.

- Mr. Anthony Albro was sworn in as a Board Member from the Wood-Ridge School District.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mr. Anthony Albro, Dr. James Albro, Mr. Chirichella, Mr. Giancaspro, Mr. Grieco, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Knipper, Mr. Kollinok, Dr. Petty, Dr. Sforza and Dr. Yurchak.
Members Absent: Dr. Matt Helfant, Ms. Sciacca and Mr. Scarafile
Also Present: Dr. Michael Kuchar, Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Susan Cucciniello, Business Administrator/Board Secretary and Mr. Dieter Lerch.

- Mr. Scarafile arrived at 9:40 a.m. during the Superintendent report.
- Ms. Sciacca arrived at 9:42 a.m. during the Superintendent report.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Kuchar updated the Board on the current status of the SBJC programs, current agreements with Felician University and No Barriers, and upcoming plans for the future.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Motion: Mr. Frank Scarafile
Seconded: Dr. Douglas Petty

A1. Motioned to approve the attached Membership Agreement for the New Milford Board of Education to join the South Bergen Jointure Commission at the one time fee of \$20,000.00 effective July 1, 2021. (Attachment A1)

Action taken:

Ayes: Dr. James Albro, Mr. Chirichella, Mr. Giancaspro, Mr. Grieco, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Knipper, Mr. Kollinok, Dr. Petty, Mr. Scarafile, Ms. Sciacca, Dr. Sforza and Dr. Yurchak.

Abstain: Mr. Anthony Albro

Nayes: None

Absent: Dr. Helfant

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion: Mr. James Albro
Seconded: Mr. Damian Kennedy

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION, that the minutes of the Executive Session and Regular Meeting of February 23, 2021 be approved.

Action taken:

Ayes: Mr. Anthony Albro, Dr. James Albro, Mr. Chirichella, Mr. Giancaspro, Mr. Grieco, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Knipper, Mr. Kollinok, Dr. Petty, Mr. Scarafile, Ms. Sciacca, Dr. Sforza and Dr. Yurchak.

Abstain: None

Nayes: None

Absent: Dr. Helfant

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

None

REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

2. FINANCE REPORT:

Motion: Mr. Damian Kennedy
Seconded: Mr. Jack Hurley

- 2a. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION, that the FINANCE resolutions as per the attached report are approved.
(2b, 2c, 2e. 2f)
- 2b. The Board accepted the Board Secretary’s Report as of January 31st, 2021 and approves “ Pursuant to NJAC 6:20-2A.10(E), certify that as of January 31st, 2021 the Board Secretary’s monthly financial report (Appropriations sections), did not reflect an over expenditure in any of the major accounts or funds, and based on the appropriations balances reflected on the report and the advice of districts officials, we have no reason to doubt that the district has sufficient funds available to meet its financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. “ (Attachment 2b)
- 2c. The Board accepted the financial report of the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of January 2021. (Attachment 2c)
- 2d. The Board approved the following resolution: “Pursuant to NJAC 6:20-2A.10(d), we certify that as of January 31st, 2021, no budgetary line item has been over expended in violation of NJAC 6:20-2A.10(a).”
- 2e. The February and March bills list below are approved (lists attached):

Bills Payable	\$2,592,261.74
Payroll/Manual Check	\$1,855,298.95
Cafeteria Checks	<u>\$ 17,149.96</u>
Total	\$4,464,710.65

- 2f. Motioned to approve the transfers for the month of January 2021. (Attachment 2f)
- 2g. Motioned to accept the 2019-2020 Audit Report after report presentation by Mr. Dieter Lerch.

WHEREAS, the 2019-2020 annual district audit as prepared by the firm of Lerch, Vinci and Higgins, LLP, Certified Public Accountants, had been submitted to the Board of Education in accordance with New Jersey Statute and Administrative Code and

WHEREAS a synopsis of the audit has been made available for public distribution a copy of which should be attached to the minutes of this meeting.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby accept the 2019-2020 Annual Audit Report and the Corrective Action Plan. (Attachment 2g)

- 2h. Approved the following tuition rates for the 2021-2022 school year. The rates are proposed and will be reevaluated after the close of the 2020-21 school year.

South Bergen Jointure Commission
2021-2022 Tuitions

<i>Autism</i>	<i>\$69,950</i>
<i>Autism ½ Day Program</i>	<i>\$34,975</i>
<i>Preschool Disabled-½ Day</i>	<i>\$23,700</i>
<i>Pre-School Autism Full Day</i>	<i>\$69,950</i>
<i>Pre-School MD</i>	<i>\$44,960</i>
<i>Pre-School Intensive BD</i>	<i>\$69,950</i>
<i>Cognitive Impairment Severe</i>	<i>\$69,950</i>
<i>Multiply Disabled (MD)</i>	<i>\$44,960</i>
<i>Emotionally Disabled (BD)</i>	<i>\$59,700</i>
<i>Middle/High School Program</i>	<i>\$57,925</i>
<i>Severely Impaired</i>	<i>\$75,900</i>
<i>Shared Time Students</i>	<i>\$30,175</i>
<i>Annual Rate 1:1 aide</i>	<i>\$45,500</i>
<i>Daily Rate 1:1 aide</i>	<i>\$250</i>

2h. Motioned to approve the 2021 Summer Extended School Year tuitions:

2021 Summer Extended School Year Tuitions:

<i>Autistic, BD, MD, & Preschool</i>	<i>\$3,900</i>
<i>Preschool (½ Day Program)</i>	<i>\$1,950</i>
<i>Severely Disabled</i>	<i>\$5,200</i>
<i>Monthly Rate (Summer) 1:1 Aide</i>	<i>\$2,600</i>

- 2i. Approved the Nurse Sub rate to be \$275 per diem to be charged for providing this service to the receiving district.
- 2j. Approved the evening program on May 5, 2021 for parents of students with special needs: Speaker - Kerry Magro: Defining Special Needs: From Nonverbal to Professional Speaker" at the cost of \$1500.
- 2k. Approved the all inclusive cost of the No Barrier's hiking training fee of \$5,500 for a program for our students.

Action taken:

Ayes: Mr. Anthony Albro, Dr. James Albro, Mr. Chirichella, Mr. Giancaspro, Mr. Grieco, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Knipper, Mr. Kollinok, Dr. Petty, Mr. Scarafile, Ms. Sciacca, Dr. Sforza and Dr. Yurchak.

Abstain: None

Nayes: None

Absent: Dr. Helfant

3. PERSONNEL:

Motion: Mr. Jack Hurley
Seconded: Mr. Anthony Grieco

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION, that in compliance with Chapter 116, P.L. 1986 and in accordance with the State of New Jersey Department of Education memorandum dated October 29, 1986 that all new personnel shall be considered to be provisionally hired: and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Schools is hereby directed to comply with State Department directives concerning the State and Federal criminal history background checks of these employees and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said new personnel shall be considered provisionally hired until such time as the Department of Education has indicated that they have completed the criminal history background checks of prospective employees and that said employees have satisfied the requirements of Chapter 116, P.L. 1986 at which time said employees shall no longer be provisional; the Business Administrator shall be hereby directed to employ personnel and to take such other personnel actions as indicated.

All appointments upon recommendation of the Superintendent are on an emergent basis, pending completion of a criminal history background check. In addition, all appointments are contingent upon the employee signing a contract in accordance with law and the receipt of favorable reference responses. All aide appointments are contingent upon the employee being available for employment for the month of July 1, 2021 through July 31, 2021. All employments are approved to be paid additional compensation for the Clubs and Activities Program, Office Support, Home Programming and Parent Training Home Program and Home Instruction on an as-needed basis.

- 3a. Motioned to approve the attached additional pay for services rendered as indicated. (Attachment 3a)
- 3b. Approved the appointment of Christina Meyers as a Paraprofessional at the hourly rate of \$22.00, which is based on the Paraprofessional Index BA with substitute certificate, effective April 1, 2021 - June 30, 2021.
- 3c. Accepted the resignation of Marcia Levin, Paraprofessional effective March 13, 2021.
- 3d. Accepted the resignation of Melissa Chalarca, Paraprofessional effective March 20, 2021.

- 3e. Accepted the resignation, for the purpose of retirement, of Lynne Kump, Occupational Therapist, effective July 1, 2021. The South Bergen Jointure Commission extends its deepest thanks to Ms. Kump for her many years of service to the district and extends to her its very best wishes on the occasion of her retirement.
- 3f. Accepted the resignation of Sonya Ratliff, Paraprofessional effective March 13, 2021.
- 3g. Accepted the resignation of Joseph Faulborn, Paraprofessional effective April 1, 2021.
- 3h. Approved the following staff, for after school home programming, services and evaluations.

Megan Beiermeister - Teacher
 Andrea Rojas - Paraprofessional

- 3i. Approved the following personnel to serve as moderator/advisor for the clubs/councils list along with their stipend amounts for the 2020-2021 school year.

Name	Advisor	Stipend
Sarah Bossio	High School Advisor	\$1,000.00
Lyzzette Grassi	Middle School Advisor	\$1,000.00

- 3h. Approved Rita Panebianco, Paraprofessional to complete her Master’s Inquiry Project, Spring 2021 at the South Bergen Jointure Commission as a requirement of Rowan University.
- 3i. Approved Kelly Palmieri, Teacher to complete classroom observation / classwork for, Spring 2021 at the South Bergen Jointure Commission as a requirement of William Paterson University.
- 3j. Adjusted Khaled Issa, Paraprofessional start date from March 1, 2021 to March 15, 2021.
- 3k. Approved the family leave under the Family Medical Leave Act for Laura Mera, Paraprofessional for the South Bergen Jointure Commission, from March 3, 2021 - May 5, 2021. This leave is unpaid with benefits.
- 3l. Approved the medical leave of absence for Edwin Flores, District Technology Coordinator, from March 12, 2021 - March 30, 2021. Mr. Flores will be paid sick days during this time. Mr. Flores’ physician has confirmed his condition.
- 3m. Approved the following staff salary adjustments for the 2020 - 2021 School Year. This adjustment is due to placing the staff on the Teacher’s Guide.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Tetyana Duggan	Non-Instructional School Nurse	BA step 1 \$53,210.00
Lauren Hallahan	Teacher	BAstep 16 \$72,385.00
Tara Pearce	Non-Instructional School Nurse	BA step 1 \$53,210.00

3n. Approved the medical leave of absence for Melissa Provost, Paraprofessional, from March 12, 2021 - April 18, 2021. Ms. Provost will be unpaid with benefits during this time. Ms. Provost's physician has confirmed her condition.

3o. Approved the appointment of Penina Onyango as a Paraprofessional at the hourly rate of \$22.00, which is based on the Paraprofessional Index BA with substitute certificate, effective April 1, 2021 - June 30, 2021.

3p. Approved the appointment of Brenda Ahumada as a Paraprofessional at the hourly rate of \$22.00, which is based on the Paraprofessional Index BA with substitute certificate, effective April 1, 2021 - June 30, 2021.

3q. Approved Carissa Murray as a Preschool Disabled teacher effective April 15, 2021 - June 30, 2021. Annual Salary of \$59,410.00 is based on Step 3 M.A. of the teacher guide and will be prorated for the period worked.

3r. Approved the medical leave under the Family Leave Act for Elizabeth Thariath, Occupational Therapist for the South Bergen Jointure Commission as follows:
Ms. Thariath's physician has confirmed her condition.

March 19, 2021 - April 1, 2021	Medical leave with benefits 10 paid sick days {Portion of benefits to be paid by employee}
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April 2, 2021 - April 9, 2021	Spring Recess
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April 12, 2021 - June 30, 2021	Federal and/or State Family Leave, Unpaid with benefits {Portion of benefits to be paid by employee}
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3n. Motioned to authorize the superintendent to hire personnel on an emergent basis for the following positions*:

Teacher Aides	School Social Worker
Teacher of the Handicapped	School Psychologist
Teacher of Students with Disabilities	Substitute Teacher
Teacher of Physical Education	Substitute Nurse
Teacher of Music	LDT-C

Behaviorist
Speech Therapist
Physical Therapist
District Technology Coordinator
Teacher of Social Studies
Teacher of English
Teacher of Reading
Substitute Teacher Aides
Assistant Business Administrator
Supervisor of STEAM
Bookkeeper

World Language Teacher
School Nurse
Occupational Therapist
School Health Aide
Teacher of Math
Principal
Reading Specialist
Teacher of Science
Clerk/Typist/Receptionist
Curriculum/Assessment Coordinator
Transportation Manager

* Board to approve names as submitted by the Superintendent at the March meeting.

- 3o. Approved the appointment of Marsha Adams-Johnson as a Paraprofessional at the hourly rate of \$16.00, which is based on the Paraprofessional Index Non-Degree with Praxis, effective April 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021.
- 3p. Approved the appointment of Amanda Markowski as a Paraprofessional at the hourly rate of \$22.00, which is based on the Paraprofessional Index BA with substitute certificate, effective April 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021.
- 3q. Approved the medical leave of absence for Francisco Mosquera, Paraprofessional from April 12, 2021 - April 28, 2021. Mr. Mosquera will be paid sick days during this time. Mr. Mosquera's physician has confirmed his condition.

Action Taken:

Ayes: Mr. Anthony Albro, Dr. James Albro, Mr. Chirichella, Mr. Giancaspro, Mr. Grieco, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Knipper, Mr. Kollinok, Dr. Petty, Mr. Scarafile, Ms. Sciacca, Dr. Sforza and Dr. Yurchak.
Abstain: None
Nays: None
Absent: Dr. Helfant

4. POLICY:

None

5. TRANSPORTATION:

Motion: Ms. Anna Sciacca
Seconded: Mr. Frank Scarafile

- 5a. Motioned to approve the attached 2020-2021 Quote Results Set 7 (Attachment 5a)
- 5b. Motioned to approve the Special Education/Regular/Non-Public Transportation Bid Results for March 4, 2021. (Attachment 5b)
- 5c. Motioned to approve the addendum on Contract #R082620-6, Mayor Transportation, A second vehicle was added, Route #IN118 effective March 8, 2021, per diem \$249.00. Total Contract per diem cost was \$3,257.00. Total per diem cost \$3,506.00.
- 5d. Motioned to approve the withholding of payment on Route #4261 for K&H Transportation, due to non-performance. Penalty of two times the daily rate in the amount of \$278.00 will be deducted from the February payment.

Action Taken:

- Ayes: Mr. Anthony Albro, Dr. James Albro, Mr. Chirichella, Mr. Giancaspro, Mr. Grieco, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Knipper, Mr. Kollinok, Dr. Petty, Mr. Scarafile, Ms. Sciacca, Dr. Sforza and Dr. Yurchak.
- Abstain: None
- Nayes: None
- Absent: Dr. Helfant

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Discussed the current status of negotiations with the SBJC Education Association and the SBJC Negotiation Committee.

7. FACILITIES AND PLANNING:

None

8. OLD BUSINESS:

9. NEW BUSINESS:

None

10. FOOD SERVICE:

- Motion: Dr. James Albro
- Seconded: Mr. Damian Kennedy

10a. Be it resolved that the South Bergen Jointure Commission Board of Education “SFA” approves the renewal of the Food Service Management contract with The Pomptonian, Inc. “FSMC” for the food service operation for 2021-2022.

The FSMC shall receive, in addition to the costs of operation, an administrative / management fee of \$9,682.00 to compensate the FSMC for administrative and management costs. This fee shall be billed in 10 monthly installments of \$968.20 per month as a cost of operation. The SFA guarantees the payment of such costs and fees to the FSMC.

Action taken:

Ayes: Mr. Anthony Albro, Dr. James Albro, Mr. Chirichella, Mr. Giancaspro, Mr. Grieco, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Knipper, Mr. Kollinok, Dr. Petty, Mr. Scarafile, Ms. Sciacca, Dr. Sforza and Dr. Yurchak.

Abstain: None

Nayes: None

Absent: Dr. Helfant

11. INFORMATION ITEMS:

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: Mr. Jack Hurley

Seconded: Dr. Douglas Petty

BE IT RESOLVED, that this meeting is adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

Action Taken: Unanimously approved by voice vote.

Ms. Susan Cucciniello
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
CLOSED MEETING TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE**

March 23, 2021

Motion:

Seconded:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION will hold a closed meeting on March 23rd, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. to review personnel matters and other confidential concerns as listed on the Closed Agenda dated March 23rd, 2021. The items discussed will be made public at the conclusion of the executive session or at a date not determined at this time.

Action taken:

SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION
CLOSED - MONTHLY MEETING

March 23rd, 2021

Meeting Opened at _____.

Members Present:

Members Absent:

Also Present:

Special Order of Business

I. Employee Relations and Negotiations

II. Legal

Action taken:

Adjournment

Motion:

Seconded:

BE IT RESOLVED, that this closed session is adjourned at _____.

Action Taken: