

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES (Virtual)
April 26th, 2022

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 9:40 am.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Dr. Albro, Mr. DeCorso, Ms. DeNobile, Mr. Giancaspro, Dr. Helfant, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Knipper, Dr. Petty, Mr. Scarafile, Ms. Sciacca, Dr. Yuchak

Members Absent: Mr. Albro, Mr. Chirichella, Ms. Evans, Ms. Shanley, Dr. Sforza

Also Present: Ms. Cucciniello, Dr. Kuchar, Mr. Rota

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Kuchar updated the Board on the district's current status and projected objectives. Ms. Cucciniello and Mr. Rota presented to the Board information regarding the building for sale in Teterboro that the district is interested in.

- Dr. James Albro left the meeting at 10:00 a.m. during the Superintendent's report
- Mr. Frank Scarafile left the meeting at 10:15 a.m. during the Superintendent's report

Motion: Mr. Damian Kennedy

Seconded: Mr. John Hurley

Resolution honoring Secretarial, Clerical, and Bookkeeping personnel and proclaiming April 25-29, 2022 as Administrative Professionals Week

WHEREAS, the South Bergen Jointure Commission Public School secretarial, clerical and bookkeeping staff members have successfully served the South Bergen Jointure Commission Public Schools, its administration, faculty, and student body in the daily performance of their duties; and

WHEREAS, the South Bergen Jointure Commission Public School secretarial, clerical and bookkeeping staff members have faithfully and unselfishly carried out their duties in an exemplary manner to the benefit of our students and the community; and

WHEREAS, the South Bergen Jointure Commission Board of Education wishes to formally recognize and honor every secretarial, clerical and bookkeeping staff members for their personal dedication;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the week of April **25-29, 2022** is hereby proclaimed “Administrative Professionals’ Week” for the purpose of providing public recognition and appreciation for the contributions that secretarial, clerical and bookkeeping staff members to the South Bergen Jointure Commission School District in the performance of their duties.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Bergen Jointure Commission by this resolution does hereby formally recognize and commend these teachers/educational services professionals for their personal dedication and outstanding professional achievements.

Action taken: Unanimous approval by voice vote

Motion: Dr. Matt Helfant
Seconded: Dr. Sue DeNobile

**Resolution proclaiming National P.T.A. Teacher Appreciation Week
May 2 -6, 2022.**

WHEREAS, America’s greatest strength has always been an educated citizenry, and

WHEREAS, that educated citizenry is directly attributable to our system of free and universal public education that provides an educational opportunity for all students, and

WHEREAS, the foundation upon which that system of public schooling rests is the classroom teacher, and

WHEREAS, the classroom teacher is challenged daily to reach out to every student – regardless of ability, interest in learning, social or economic background, physical, mental, or emotional handicap, race, religion, creed, or ethnic origin – to provide assistance and guidance necessary for full intellectual development; and

WHEREAS, the classroom teacher is a key to the intellectual and occupational preparation of individual citizens, who collectively determine the quality of life in America and in our communities; and

WHEREAS, the work of the classroom teacher immeasurably affects the future lives of all students; and

WHEREAS, the classroom teacher deserves the deepest respect and admiration of the citizens of our communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Bergen Jointure Commission hereby proclaims “Teacher Appreciation Week” May 2 - 6, 2022 for the purpose of providing public recognition and appreciation for the dedication and contributions of the classroom teacher, not only to our communities as a whole, but to each of us individually as citizens. Additionally, May 12th is proclaimed as “School Nurse Day”.

Action taken: Unanimous approval by voice vote

Motion: Dr. Matt Helfant

Seconded: Mr. Damian Kennedy

Resolution declaring the week of May 8 - 14, 2022 as Special Education Week.

WHEREAS, the week of May 8-14, 2022 has been designated as Special Education Week by the New Jersey School Boards Association and the Association of Schools and Agencies for the Handicapped; and

WHEREAS, in the South Bergen Jointure Commission we have a tradition of excellence in our special education programs and a superb and dedicated staff.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Bergen Jointure Commission does hereby declare May 8 - 14, 2022 as Special Education Week in the South Bergen Jointure Commission. The Commission, furthermore, is proud to provide exceptional programs that assist every child in reaching his or her potential.

Action taken: Unanimous approval by voice vote

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

- ❖ The Board went into closed session to discuss a real estate matter at 10:20 am.
- ❖ The Board came out of closed session at 10:28 am.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion: Dr. Sue DeNobile
Seconded: Mr. Joseph DeCorso

1. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION, that the minutes of the Executive Session and Regular Meeting of March 22, 2022 be approved as amended.

Action taken: Unanimous approval by voice vote

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Ms. Forte thanked Ms. Lorraine Rake for the parent program that she arranged recently at the Primetime Campus. She also wished Mr. Giancaspro and Mr. Albro luck in their ongoing appointment as Board President and Vice President.

REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

2. FINANCE REPORT:

Motion: Mr. John Hurley
Seconded: Dr. Douglas Petty

- 2a. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION, that the FINANCE resolutions as per the attached report are approved. (2b, 2c)
- 2b. The Board accepts the Board Secretary's Report as of February 28, 2022 and approves " Pursuant to NJAC 6:20-2A.10(E), certify that as of February 28, 2022 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 accepts the financial report of the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of February 2022. (Attachment 2c)

2d. The Board approves the following resolution: “Pursuant to NJAC 6:20-2A.10(d), we certify that as of February 28, 2022, no budgetary line item has been over-expanded in violation of NJAC 6:20-2A.10(a).”

2e. The March, April and May bills list below are approved (lists attached):

Bills Payable	\$ 3,723,803.67
Payroll/Manual Check	\$ 1,919,747.46
Cafeteria Checks	<u>\$ 32,114.54</u>
Total	\$ 5,675,665.67

2f. Motion to approve additional appropriations for revenues and expenditures for the month of February 2022. These appropriations recognize anticipated revenues. (Attachment 2f)

2g. Motion to approve continued participation in the Educational Data Services Cooperative Pricing Agreement System for Cooperative Skilled Trades for the period of April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021 at the annual cost of \$2,000. (Attachment 2g)

2h. Motion to approve the submission of the Grant Application for the 2022 Safety Grant Program through the NJ Schools Insurance Group’s NJEIF Subfund for the purposes described in the application, in the amount of \$2,000.00 for the period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. (Attachment 2h)

2i. Motion to approve the Inaugural Program expense to Felician University for Professional Development and Community relations for our member districts usage in the amount of \$3,000.

Action taken:

- Ayes: Mr. DeCorso, Dr. DeNobile, Mr. Giancaspro, Dr. Helfant, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Knipper, Dr. Petty, Ms. Sciacca, Dr. Yurchak
- Abstain: None
- Nays: None
- Absent: Mr. Albro, Dr. Albro, Mr. Chirichella, Ms. Evans, Mr. Scarafile, Dr.Sforza, Ms. Shanley

3. PERSONNEL:

- Motion: Mr. James Knipper
- Seconded: Ms. Anna Sciacca

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, 2022 through July 31, 2022. 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. Motion to approve the attached additional pay for services rendered as indicated.
(Attachment 3a)
- 3b. Approve the appointment of Mr. David Johansen, as a Paraprofessional, at \$20.00 per hour which is based on the Paraprofessional Index A.A. with substitute certificate effective April 25, 2022 - June 30, 2022. This is contingent upon receipt of proof of certification. If this proof is not provided, the rate of pay will be \$19.00 per hour.
- 3c. Approve the appointment of Ms. Courtney Kurtz, as a Paraprofessional, at \$20.00 per hour which is based on the Paraprofessional Index A.A. with substitute certificate effective April 25, 2022 - June 30, 2022. This is contingent upon receipt of proof of certification. If this proof is not provided, the rate of pay will be \$19.00 per hour.
- 3d. Rescind the appointment of Ms. Ajfera Hodzic, Paraprofessional which was effective March 21, 2022.
- 3e. Approve the following staff for after school home programming, services and evaluations.

Mollie Friedman - Paraprofessional
Anthony Sanchez - Speech Therapist

- 3f. Adjust the leave of absence for Employee ID#0991 from January 3, 2022 through June 23, 2022, using days in accordance with the individual agreement with the Board and utilizing the FMLA and/or NJFLA leave entitlement.
- 3g. Approve the leave of absence for Employee ID#0265 from April 4, 2022 through June 3, 2022 using days in accordance with the individual agreement with the Board and utilizing the FMLA and/or NJFLA leave entitlement.
- 3h. Accept the resignation of Mr. Osakpolor Okunkpolor, Paraprofessional effective April 15, 2022.
- 3i. Approve a contract with Lyndhurst Board of Education for the Jointure to provide 1:1 aide services effective March 29, 2022 for student J. J. Full amount of the annual prorated fee shall be charged to the Lyndhurst Board of Education.
- 3j. Approve the appointment of Ms. Mirla Brito, as a (.8, 4 days per week) Paraprofessional, at \$20.00 per hour which is based on the Paraprofessional Index A.A. with substitute certificate effective April 25, 2022 - June 30, 2022. This is contingent upon receipt of proof of certification. If this proof is not provided, the rate of pay will be \$19.00 per hour.
- 3k. Reappoint the attached Teachers for the 2022-2023 school year, with salaries as per the attached. (Attachment 3k).
- 3l. Reappoint the attached Outreach employees, Occupational and Physical Therapists for the 2022-2023 school year with salary increase to be determined. (Attachment 3l)
- 3m. Approve the following staff to be added to the substitute list for the 2021 - 2022 school year.
 - Linda Kearns
 - Mackenzie Mortensen
 - Joanna Balestier
 - Victoria Bevacqua
 - Jamie Rossig
- 3n. Reappoint the Administrators for the 2022-2023 school year with salaries as per attached. (Attachment 3n)
- 3o. Approve the attached job description for a new position of an Assistant BCBA at the following rate at the starting salary of \$52,569.60 (attachment 3o)
- 3p. Reappoint the 12 month employees for the 2022-2023 school year with salary increase to be determined. (Attachment 3p).

- 3q. Accept the resignation, for the purpose of retirement, of Ms. Antoinette Tobia, Art Teacher effective July 1, 2022. The South Bergen Jointure Commission extends its deepest thanks to Ms. Tobia for her many years of service to the district and extends to her its very best wishes on the occasion of her retirement.
- 3r. Accept the resignation, for the purpose of retirement, of Ms. Pat Kose, Paraprofessional effective July 1, 2022. The South Bergen Jointure Commission extends its deepest thanks to Ms.Kose for her many years of service to the district and extends to her its very best wishes on the occasion of her retirement.
- 3s. Accept the resignation of Natasha Ishak, Paraprofessional effective May 14. 2022.

Action taken:

Ayes: Mr. DeCorso, Dr. DeNobile, Mr. Giancaspro, Dr. Helfant, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Knipper, Dr. Petty, Ms. Sciacca, Dr. Yurchak

Abstain: None

Nayes: None

Absent: Mr. Albro, Dr. Albro, Mr. Chirichella, Ms. Evans, Mr. Scarafile, Dr. Sforza, Ms. Shanley

4. POLICY:

Motion: Dr. Sue DeNobile

Seconded: Mr. Damian Kennedy

- 4a. Motion to approve the adjusted South Bergen Jointure Commission 2021 - 2022 Calendar due to unused emergency days (Attachment 4a).

Action taken:

Ayes: Mr. DeCorso, Dr. DeNobile, Mr. Giancaspro, Dr. Helfant, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Knipper, Dr. Petty, Ms. Sciacca, Dr. Yurchak

Abstain: None

Nayes: None

Absent: Mr. Albro, Dr. Albro, Mr. Chirichella, Ms. Evans, Mr. Scarafile, Dr. Sforza, Ms. Shanley

5. TRANSPORTATION:

Motion: Ms. Anna Sciacca

Seconded: Dr. Matt Helfant

- 5a. Motion to approve the attached 2021-2022 Quote Results Set (Attachment 5a)

- 5b. Motion to approve the bid results for April 6, 2022, Special Education/Regular Student Transportation Services (Attachment 5b)
- 5c. Motion to approve the renewal of Athletic and Field Trip Transportation Services (Attachment 5c)
- 5d. Motion to approve the bid results for April 6, 2022, Athletic and Field Trip Transportation Services (Attachment 5d)
- 5e. Motion to approve the withholding of payment for John Leckie Bus Company on Route #4953 due to non-compliance of the contract. Penalty of two times the daily rate for failure to provide an aide an amount of \$795.00 will be deducted from the April payment
- 5f. Motion to approve the addendum for additional mileage on Contract #091020-12, Route #IN131, Prestige Xpress, twenty two miles were added daily effective March 24, 2022. Vehicle cost is \$152.54 per diem and mileage \$33.00 per diem. Total route cost \$185.54.

Action taken:

- Ayes: Mr. DeCorso, Dr. DeNobile, Mr. Giancaspro, Dr. Helfant, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Knipper, Dr. Petty, Ms. Sciacca, Dr. Yurchak
- Abstain: None
- Nays: None
- Absent: Mr. Albro, Dr. Albro, Mr. Chirichella, Ms. Evans, Mr. Scarafile, Dr. Sforza, Ms. Shanley

6. FACILITIES AND PLANNING:

- Motion: Dr. Matt Helfant
- Seconded: Dr. Sue DeNobile

- 6a. Motion to approve the Amendment to the Lease between South Bergen Jointure Commission and 500 Route 17 South, Hasbrouck Heights, LLC from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. (Attachment 6a)
- 6b. Motion to approve to exercise the Option to Renew the Lease Extension Agreement with St. Francis Church, Lodi for the period July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2024 at the proposed terms in the agreement dated January 11, 2019. (Attachment 6b)

Action taken:

- Ayes: Mr. DeCorso, Dr. DeNobile, Mr. Giancaspro, Dr. Helfant, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Knipper, Dr. Petty, Ms. Sciacca, Dr. Yurchak

Abstain: None
Nayes: None
Absent: Mr. Albro, Dr. Albro, Mr. Chirichella, Ms. Evans, Mr. Scarafile, Dr. Sforza, Ms. Shanley

7. **OLD BUSINESS:**
None

8. **NEW BUSINESS:**
None

9. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**
None

10. **FOOD SERVICE:**
None

11. **CURRICULUM:**
None

12. **INFORMATION ITEMS:**
None

13. **CORRESPONDENCE:**
None

ADJOURNMENT:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that this meeting is adjourned at 10:42 am.

Action Taken: Unanimous approval by voice vote

Ms. Susan Cucciniello
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

**SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION
SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
CLOSED MEETING TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE (Virtual)**

April 26th, 2022 Closed Session Meeting Minutes

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

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION will hold a closed meeting on April 26, 2022 to review personnel matters and other confidential concerns as listed on the Closed Agenda dated April 26 2022. 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:

Meeting Opened at 10:20 am.

Members Present: Mr. DeCorso, Ms. DeNobile, Mr. Giancaspro, Dr. Helfant, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Knipper, Dr. Petty, Ms. Sciacca, Dr. Yuchak
Members Absent: Dr. Albro, Mr. Albro, Mr. Chirichella, Ms. Evans, Mr. Scarafile, Ms. Shanley, Dr. Sforza
Also Present: Ms. Cucciniello, Dr. Kuchar

Special Order of Business

The Board discussed the Real Estate item that was presented by Ms. Cucciniello and Mr. Rota.

Adjournment

Motion: Mr. Damian Kennedy
Seconded: Dr. Sue DeNobile

BE IT RESOLVED, that this closed session is adjourned at 10:28 am.

Action taken: Unanimous approval by voice vote