

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES (Virtual)
April 27, 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 9:45 a.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Members Absent: Dr. Sforza

Also Present: Dr. Michael Kuchar, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Kenneth Sheldon, Assistant Business Administrator.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Enrollment report

Dr. Kuchar updated the Board on the No Barriers Program and shared with everyone the Star Student's who participated in the Leadership hiking excursion.

Motion: Mr. John Hurley

Seconded: Mr. Stephen Kollinok

**Resolution honoring Secretarial, Clerical, and Bookkeeping personnel and
proclaiming April 19-23, 2021 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 19-23, 2021 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.

**Resolution proclaiming National P.T.A. Teacher Appreciation Week
May 3 - 7, 2021.**

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 3 - 7, 2021 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”.

Resolution declaring the week of May 9 - 15, 2021 as Special Education Week.

WHEREAS, the week of May 9-15, 2021 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 9 - 15, 2021 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:

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

Abstain: None

Nayes: None

Absent: Dr. Sforza

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion: Mr. Anthony Grieco

Seconded: Mr. Damian Kennedy

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

Action taken:

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

Abstain: None

Nayes: None

Absent: Dr. Sforza

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

2. FINANCE REPORT:

Motion: Mr. Frank Scarafile

Seconded: Dr. James Albro

- 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, 2021 and approves “ Pursuant to NJAC 6:20-2A.10(E), certify that as of February 28, 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 accepts the financial report of the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of February 2021. (Attachment 2c)
- 2d. The Board approves the following resolution: “Pursuant to NJAC 6:20-2A.10(d), we certify that as of February 28, 2021, no budgetary line item has been over expended in violation of NJAC 6:20-2A.10(a).”
- 2e. The March, April and May bills list below are approved (lists attached):

Bills Payable	\$3,358,713.64
Payroll/Manual Check	\$1,805,401.40
Cafeteria Checks	<u>\$ 24,992.68</u>

Total **\$5,189,107.72**

- 2f. Motioned to approve the transfers for the month of February 2021. (Attachment 2f)
- 2g. Motioned 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. Accepted the donation from the Knights of Columbus, St Anthony's Council # 11585 for \$200.00. This will be earmarked for our Life Skills Program at the Lodi Campus. (Attachment 2h)
- 2i. Motioned to approve the submission of the Grant Application for the 2021 Safety Grant Program through the NJ Schools Insurance Group's NJEIF Subfund for the purposes described in the application, in the amount of \$1,382.00 for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. (Attachment 2i)

Action taken:

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

Abstain: None

Nayes: None

Absent: Dr. Sforza

3. PERSONNEL:

Motion: Mr. John 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 a contract with Mountain Lakes Board of Education for the Jointure to provide 1:1 aide services effective January 14, 2021 for student B. D. Full amount of the annual prorated fee shall be charged to the Mountain Lakes Board of Education.
- 3c. Approved the appointment of Eleonora Shtajner Jovanovska as a Paraprofessional at the hourly rate of \$22.00, which is based on the Paraprofessional Index BA with substitute certificate, effective April 12, 2021 - June 30, 2021.
- 3d. Accepted the resignation of Nicole Skelly, Paraprofessional effective April 14, 2021.
- 3e. Adjusted the leave of absence for Employee ID#0298 effective March 8, 2021 through August 13, 2021, with a reinstatement date of August 16, 2021, using days in accordance with the SBJCAA/Board Agreement and utilizing the FMLA and/or NJFLA leave entitlement.
- 3f. Approved the following staff, for after school home programming, services and evaluations.

Brynn Baumann - Occupational Therapist
Bari-Sue Douglas - Occupational Therapist
Katherine Estrella - Paraprofessional
Cristine Potter - Teacher

- 3g. Approved the leave of absence for Employee ID#1000 from May 21, 2021 through June 24, 2021, with a reinstatement date of September 1, 2021, using days in accordance with the individual agreement with the Board and utilizing the FMLA and/or NJFLA leave entitlement.

- 3h. Approved Cristine Potter, Teacher to be moved from BA+15 to MA for the

2021-2022 School Year. Ms. Potter has completed the requirements of the Teacher Salary guide and documents have been provided.

- 3i. Adjusted the start date of Marsha Adams-Johnson as a Paraprofessional from April 1, 2021 to July 6, 2021.
- 3j. Accepted the resignation of Annette Cauwenberghs, Paraprofessional effective 4/24/21.
- 3k. Approved the leave of absence for Employee ID#0179 from April 28, 2021 - June 30, 2021, using days in accordance with the individual agreement with the Board and utilizing the FMLA and/or NJFLA leave entitlement.
- 3l. Approved the new title of Dr. Reji George as Supervisor of Paraprofessionals, Nursing, and FMLA Coordinator with no change in salary.
- 3m. Accepted the resignation, for the purpose of retirement, of Kathleen Sutphin, Teacher effective July 1, 2021. The South Bergen Jointure Commission extends its deepest thanks to Ms. Sutphin for her many years of service to the district and extends to her its very best wishes on the occasion of her retirement.
- 3n. Approved the appointment of Osakpolor Okunkpolor as a Paraprofessional at the hourly rate of \$22.00, which is based on the Paraprofessional Index BA with substitute certificate, effective April 13, 2021 - June 30, 2021.
- 3o. Adjusted the start date of Penina Onyango as a Paraprofessional from April 1, 2021 to April 12, 2021.
- 3p. Adjusted the start date of Amanda Markowski from April 1, 2021 to April 26, 2021.
- 3q. Reappointed the attached Teachers for the 2021-2022 school year, with salaries to be adjusted after the contract is negotiated. (Attachment 3q)
- 3r. Reappointed the attached Outreach employees, Occupational and Physical Therapists for the 2021-2022 school year with salary increase to be determined. (Attachment 3r)
- 3s. Reappointed the attached Outreach Personnel for the 2021-2022 school year with salary increase to be determined. (Attachment 3s)
- 3t. Reappointed the attached Paraprofessionals for the 2021-2022 school year with salary increase to be determined. (Attachment 3t)
- 3u. Reappointed the Administrators for the 2021-2022 school year with salaries with salaries to be adjusted after the contract is negotiated. (Attachment 3u)

- 3v. Reappointed the 12 month employees for the 2021-2022 school year with salary increase to be determined. (Attachment 3v)
- 3w. Accepted the resignation of Kelly Gugger, Speech Therapist effective July 1, 2021.
- 3x. Approved the appointment of Colette Rake as a Paraprofessional at the hourly rate of \$20.00, which is based on the Paraprofessional Index A.A. with a substitute certificate, effective May 1, 2021 - June 30, 2021.

*Board to approve names as submitted by the Superintendent.

Action taken:

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

4. POLICY:

- Motion: Mr. Frank Scarafile
- Seconded: Mr. Damian Kennedy

- 4a. Motioned to adopt the July 2021 Extended School Year calendar. (Attachment 4a)

Action taken:

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

5. TRANSPORTATION:

- Motion: Mr. Anthony Grieco
- Seconded: Mr. John Hurley

- 5a. Motioned to approve the attached 2020-2021 Quote Results Set 8. (Attachment 5a)

5b. Motioned to approve the withholding of payment on Route #4366 for K&H Transportation, due to non-performance. Penalty of two times the daily rate in the amount of \$338.00 will be deducted from the April payment.

5c. Motioned to approve the withholding of payment on Route #4377 for K&H transportation, due to Non-Compliance of the contract. Penalty of two times the daily rate in the amount of \$300.00 will be deducted from the April payment.

Action taken:

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

Abstain: None

Nayes: None

Absent: Dr. Dario Sforza

6. **FACILITIES AND PLANNING:**

7. **OLD BUSINESS:**

8. **NEW BUSINESS:**

9. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

10. **FOOD SERVICE:**

11. **INFORMATION ITEMS:**

12. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: Dr. Matthew Helfant

Seconded: Mr. Anthony Grieco

BE IT RESOLVED, that this meeting is adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Action Taken: Unanimously approved by voice vote.

Mr. Kenneth Sheldon
Assistant Business Administrator

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

April 27th, 2021

Motion:
Seconded:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION will hold a closed meeting on April 27, 2021 at to review personnel matters and other confidential concerns as listed on the Closed Agenda dated April 27, 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:

Meeting Opened at _____.

Members Present:
Members Absent:
Also Present:

Special Order of Business

I. Employee Relations and Negotiations

II. Legal

Adjournment

Motion:
Seconded:

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

Action taken: