

**Board of Education  
Upper Saddle River, New Jersey  
Regular Session  
Monday, January 9, 2017, 8:00 p.m.**

**Minutes**

This Regular Session of the Upper Saddle River Board of Education was held in the Cavallini School Media Center of the Upper Saddle River Schools beginning at 8:00 p.m. Mrs. Johnston opened the meeting and stated that the meeting was being held in compliance with PL 1975, Chapter 232 and appropriate notice had been provided to the designated newspapers, the Borough Clerk and all interested parties requesting such notification.

Members present: Mrs. Johnston, Mr. Amano, Mrs. Fusaro, Mrs. Gandara, Mrs. Pittman, Mr. Prisco, Dr. Verducci

Members absent: None

Also present: Dr. Browne, Mrs. Imbasciani

**CONFIDENTIAL SESSION**

Mr. Prisco made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Fusaro to convene into Executive Session at 7:30 p.m. Mrs. Johnston then read the following statement:

**WHEREAS**, the members of the Upper Saddle River Board of Education deem necessary to discuss personnel and legal matters, and

**WHEREAS**, the topics to be discussed are within the exemptions which are permitted to be discussed and acted upon in confidential session pursuant to PL 1975, Chapter 231,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting will be made public when the need for privacy no longer exists. Action may be taken.

Mrs. Fusaro made a motion, seconded by Mr. Amano to adjourn Executive Session at 8:00 p.m.

Mrs. Pittman made a motion, seconded by Mr. Prisco to convene into Regular Session at 8:00 p.m.

**OPENING STATEMENT:**

**Mrs. Johnston**

Mrs. Johnston welcomed the public to the meeting.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

**Dr. Browne**

Dr. Browne gave her report to the Board. Highlights included:

- **Board Appreciation Month:**  
Dr. Browne announced that it was Board Appreciation Month as deemed by the State Legislature. She thanked our volunteer Board members for all they do.
- **TECHSPO:**  
Dr. Browne was proud to tell the Board that Mr. Padilla, Mr. Cazes, Mr. Kaplan and she were selected as Techspo Presenters at the end of the month.

**BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

**Mrs. Imbasciani**

- **Update on Gas Leak**  
Mrs. Imbasciani updated the Board on the gas leak that occurred last week and thanked Mr. Leka the USR Fire Department and PSE&G for their quick response.

**BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT: None**

**Mrs. Johnston**

**COMMITTEE REPORT:**

**NJSBA Liaison:**

**Dr. Verducci**

- Dr. Verducci told the Board that he will be attending the public hearing on accountability regulations on Wednesday evening.

**PTO REPORT: None**

**Mr. Layne/Mrs. Mazzola**

**USREF Report: None**

**Mrs. Mueller**

**PRESENTATION:**

- **Wellness in Reynolds School**

**Mrs. Severs/Mrs. Slacin**

The "Wellness in Reynolds School" presentation highlighted the many programs and activities that are being offered to students in Reynolds School. In alignment with their Open Circle Program, Reynolds School focuses on monthly Star Power and recognizes students putting them into action each week. In addition, the new Recess Buddy Program is up and running, which promotes students helping one another during recess time. Also, Mrs. Slacin is introducing a variety of calming activities through her guidance lessons. Students, Samantha Venn, Brooke Reissman and Jeffrey Begun, shared the many tools that they find helpful with the Board: Samantha: Calm Breathing, Brooke - Tangle and Happy Cards and Jeffrey - Stress Ball and Kinetic Sand.

**COMMENTS:**

- Mrs. Johnston thanked the three presenters. She was amazed at how well they spoke.
- Mrs. Pittman asked how often the students do this.
- Mrs. Slacin said that they are currently trying out techniques with the students to see what they respond to.
- Dr. Browne thanked Samantha, Brooke and Jeffrey for coming out tonight and to all the members of Reynolds staff who have taken on this initiative and made it so available to all students.

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: None**

**PERSONNEL:**

**Dr. Browne**

**A motion was made by Dr. Verducci and seconded by Mrs. Fusaro to approve Personnel Consent Agenda items A through G and was approved by all in attendance.**

A. Create/Abolish

1. Create one 1.0 FTE Paraprofessional position at Reynolds School, effective January 3, 2017.
2. Create one 1.0 FTE Paraprofessional position at Reynolds School, effective January 10, 2017.
3. Create one Director of Personnel/Staff Development position, effective January 10, 2017.

B. Job Description (not applicable)

C. Retirement (not applicable)

D. Leaves

1. Approve paid disability leave for James Gorab, Cavallini Technology Education Teacher, effective December 19, 2016 through approximately January 31, 2017.

2. Approve paid disability leave and unpaid statutory leave for Danielle Hoffman, paraprofessional, effective December 14, 2016 through approximately February 7, 2017.

E. Appointments

1. Approve Traci Bowles, Cavallini Language Arts Teacher, as a School Administrator Intern for the 2016/17 school year.
2. Appoint Antenette Lam to the position of paraprofessional at Reynolds School, Step 3, effective on or before January 20, 2017, subject to the satisfactory completion of the criminal history records check required by law.

F. Substitutes/Consultants/Student Teacher-Intern

1. Approve Allison Chostaka as a substitute teacher/paraprofessional for the 2016/17 school year, pending receipt of NJ Substitute Teacher Credentials.
2. Approve Fernanda Hubbard as a substitute secretary/lunch aide for the 2016/17 school year.
3. Approve Kathryn Zinn as a substitute teacher/paraprofessional for the 2016/17 school year, NJ Standard Elementary School Teacher Certificate.
4. Approve Kathryn Barthold as a Student Teacher/Intern at Bogert School from January through May 2017, subject to the satisfactory completion of the criminal history records check required by law, NJ Substitute Teacher's Credential.
5. Approve Robert Franklin as a Student Teacher/Intern at Bogert School from January through May 2017, subject to the satisfactory completion of the criminal history records check required by law, NJ Substitute Teacher's Credential.

G. Change in Level (not applicable)

**FINANCE:**

**Mrs. Imbasciani**

**A motion was made by Mr. Prisco and seconded by Mrs. Pittman to approve Finance Consent Agenda items A through H was approved by all in attendance.**

A. Approve the Minutes of Board Meeting:

December 5 and December 19, 2016

B. Approve the Bills List for December 2016 as follows:

10	General Current Expense	\$64,645.07
11	General Current Expense	\$1,923,033.09
12	Capital Outlay	\$293,577.41
20	Special Revenue Funds	\$32,992.72
40	Debt Service Funds	\$746,565.40
50	Milk	\$279.63
60	Trust Fund	\$33,198.16
	Total	\$3,094,291.48

C. Approve Transfers for December 2016.

- D. Approve the service contract with the Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired for student whose name is on file in the Board Office for the 2016/17 school year.
- E. Approve the service contract with the Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired for student whose name is on file in the Board Office for the 2016/17 school year.
- F. Approve a student who has moved out of the district and whose name is on file in the Board Office to continue as a tuition student for the remainder of the 2016/17 school year.
- G. Approve Karl and Associates to provide Comprehensive Lead in Drinking Water Services per N.J.A.C. 6A:26 for the district at an estimated cost of \$7,675.00.
- H. Approve the following Travel Expenses:

Program Name	Date	Employee	Registration Fee	Travel Cost
TC Lead School Visit Maplewood, NJ	January 13, 2017	Patricia Policastro	\$0.00	\$18.79
PLAAFPs Train the Trainer Workshop Lyndhurst, NJ	January 23, 2017	Katherine Baker Lauren Malaney Meagan Schwartz	\$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00	\$12.90 \$0.00 \$12.90
IMSE Advanced Continuum Orton-Gillingham Training Secaucus, NJ	January 23-26, 2017	Danielle Larsen	\$975.00	\$58.83
PLAAFPs Train the Trainer Workshop Lyndhurst, NJ	January 24, 2017	Melissa DeBartolo	\$0.00	\$0.00
NJASA Techspo Atlantic City, NJ	January 26-27, 2017	David Kaplan	\$225.00	\$308.80
World Language Site Visit Fair Haven, NJ	February 1, 2017	Rachel Friedman	\$0.00	\$46.50
Pearson Regional Training for the PARCC Assessment Whippany, NJ	February 9, 2017	Daniel Cazes	\$0.00	\$20.89
Maximizing Essential Math Skills & Concepts Monroe Township, NJ	*February 16, 2017	Lauren Rozema	\$0.00	\$48.56
Speech & Language Conference: 101 Therapy Strategies to Increase Your Effectiveness as a Speech Language Pathologist West Orange, NJ	March 2, 2017	Kelly Diverio	\$245.00	\$0.00
PLAAFPs Train the Trainer Workshop Lyndhurst, NJ	March 20, 2017	Meagan Schwartz	\$0.00	\$12.90
NJ State School Nurses Association Spring Conference Iselin, NJ	March 25, 2017	Lisa LoPiccolo	\$199.00	\$33.67

\*Date was changed from 11/9/16 to 2/16/17

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:**

- Ms. Alessandra Amano spoke to the Board about the “Relay for Life” fundraiser being held at Northern Highlands on May 20 – 21, from 5:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m.
- Mrs. Gandara said that her daughter did this last year and it was an amazing experience for her. She said it was a great event.

**ADJOURNMENT****Mrs. Johnston**

A motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Pittman and seconded by Mr. Prisco at 8:37 p.m.

Sincerely,  
Dana Imbasciani, Board Secretary