

**Board of Education  
Upper Saddle River, New Jersey  
Regular Session  
Monday, October 19, 2020, 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. Gandara, Mrs. Ginsberg, Mrs. Gray, Mr. Quagliani, Dr. Verducci

Members absent: None

Also present: Dr. Siegel, Mrs. Imbasciani

**REGULAR SESSION**

Dr. Verducci made a motion, seconded by Mr. Amano to convene into Regular Session at 8:00 p.m.

**OPENING STATEMENT:**

**Mrs. Johnston**

Mrs. Johnston welcomed the public.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

**Dr. Siegel**

Dr. Siegel reported to the Board on the following:

- He will be hosting a parent open forum on Thursday, October 22 at 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. to reflect on Phase 1 opening and learning.
- One hour Zoom sessions for the Parents Wellness book clubs have been scheduled throughout the year. The first will be held on November 9<sup>th</sup> and the book being discussed is The Gift of Failure by Jessica Lahey.

**BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

**Mrs. Imbasciani**

Mrs. Imbasciani reported on Extraordinary Aid for FY 2019.

**BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT: None**

**Mrs. Johnston**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Policy Committee**

**Mrs. Gandara**

- The committee is reviewing several policies and making recommendations for the next Board meeting.

**Personnel Committee**

**Dr. Verducci**

- Staffing needs were discussed.

**Technology Committee**

**Mrs. Gandara**

- The committee reviewed the draft copy of Technology Committee goals.
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**PTO REPORT:****Mrs. Apostolou/Mrs. Degenars**

Mrs. Galasso reported the following on behalf of the USRPTO:

- Thank you to returning and new members and those that support the fund raisers.
- Running a mask fundraiser
- Family dinner fundraiser
- Halloween collaboration with the USREF
- The PTO is striving to make this school year special for students.

**USREF Report:****Mrs. Mueller**

Mrs. Mueller reported the following on behalf of the USREF:

- Halloween collaboration with USRPTO – “Boo-Kits”
- 2020 Award for Excellence to Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts was presented during USR Cares Day. The plaque will be hung in Borough Hall.
- Created sub-committee for 2021 Award for Excellence

**PRESENTATION:****Innovative Use of Technology****Mr. Cazes/Mrs. Zeccardi**

Mr. Cazes discussed the various kinds of technology being used to enhance instruction for hybrid and distance learning students.

Mrs. Zeccardi shared a glimpse of what technology looks like in the district every day.

**COMMENTS:**

- Mrs. Johnston thanked Mr. Cazes for his leadership and innovation during these challenging times.
- Mrs. Gandara questioned whether handwriting or technology (typing) is best for learning purposes.
- Mrs. Ginsberg stated that the use of technology is setting the schools on a positive trajectory and elevating the delivery of instruction.
- Mr. Quagliani asked if the district gets feedback from students regarding the use of these tools. Is there a way to know which students and teachers actually use the tools? Are we looking into any other tools/ software packages?
- Mr. Cazes stressed that technology is used to enhance the curriculum.
- Dr. Siegel stated that the technology we are using is allowing the teachers to continue to be the teachers they are from afar.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Mrs. Beylerian thanked the staff, administrators and Board of Education for having the children in school and keeping them safe.

**ADMINISTRATION:****Dr. Siegel**

**A motion was made by Dr. Verducci and seconded by Mrs. Gandara to approve Administration Consent Agenda Item A and was approved by all in attendance.**

- A. Approve the Health and Safety Evaluation of School Buildings Checklist Statement of Assurance for the 2020/21 school year.

**PERSONNEL:**

**A motion was made by Mr. Quagliani and seconded by Mrs. Gandara to approve Personnel Consent Agenda Items A through F and was approved by all in attendance.**

- A. Create/Abolish (not applicable)
- B. Resignations (not applicable)
- C. Leaves
1. Approve to extend the paid medical leave of Alex Alba, Custodian, through approximately October 23, 2020.
  2. Approve to extend the paid medical leave of Scott Kirsch, Custodian, through approximately October 30, 2020.
  3. Approve a leave of absence for Peter J. Petrow, PE/Health Teacher, under the Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act (EPSLA), effective October 19, 2020 through October 30, 2020 and the Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act (EFMLEA), effective November 2, 2020 through December 23, 2020. Payment will be in accordance with the Emergency FMLA Expansion Act.
  4. Approve a leave of absence for Carrie Topolosky, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade/BSI Teacher, under the Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act (EFMLEA), effective October 19, 2020 through December 23, 2020. Payment will be in accordance with the Emergency FMLA Expansion Act.
  5. Approve unpaid FMLA Leave, effective October 1, 2020 through October 31, 2020 and paid medical leave, effective November 1, 2020 through November 30, 2020, for Susan Wei, Paraprofessional.
- D. Appointments
1. Appoint Anthony Farinacci to the position of per diem long-term leave replacement Child Study Team Case Manager/School Psychologist, MA + 30, Step 14, effective on or about November 9, 2020 through approximately March 26, 2021, subject to the satisfactory completion of the criminal history records check required by law.
  2. Appoint John S. Livathares to the position of per diem long-term leave replacement PE/Health Teacher at Bogert, BA, Step 10, effective on or about October 20, 2020 through December 23, 2020, subject to the satisfactory completion of the criminal history records check required by law.
  3. Approve the following staff members for the positions listed below for the 2020/21 school year:
- |                               |                     |            |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|------------|
| Cavallini Boys' Soccer Coach  | Jason Dates         | \$3,000.00 |
| Cavallini Girls' Soccer Coach | Emily Viola         | \$1,500.00 |
| " (Split)                     | Samantha Smith      | \$1,500.00 |
| Cavallini Cross Country       | Jonathan Harvey     | \$1,500.00 |
| " (Split)                     | Christine Cipollini | \$1,500.00 |
| Cavallini Volleyball Coach    | Noelle Vosseler     | \$3,000.00 |
| Cavallini Yearbook (Level A)  | Kristen Nicholas    | \$1,650.00 |
| Cavallini Cares (Level B)     | Lyndsey Stickerling | \$930.00   |
- E. Lateral Guide Moves (not applicable)
- F. Substitutes/Consultants/Volunteers/Interns

1. Approve James D'Alessio as a student teacher at Bogert School, January 2021 through May 2021.
2. Approve Surabhi Goyal as a substitute teacher/paraprofessional for the 2020/21 school year, NJ Substitute Teacher's Certificate.

**FINANCE :****Mrs. Imbasciani**

**A motion was made by Mr. Amano and seconded by Mrs. Ginsberg to approve Finance Consent Agenda Items A through M and was approved by all in attendance.**

- A. Approve the Minutes of Board Meetings:

September 14, 2020 and September 24, 2020 (Mini-Retreat)

- B. Approve the Bills List for September 2020 as follows:

10	General Current Expense	\$74,244.57
11	General Current Expense	\$2,173,304.62
20	Special Revenue Funds	\$67,775.27
60	Debt Service Funds	\$6,625.52
	Total	\$2,321,949.98

- C. Approve the Transfers for September 2020.

- D. Approve the following Resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the Upper Saddle River Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") advertised for bids for snow removal services for the 2020-2023 school years (hereinafter referred to as "Snow Removal"); and

**WHEREAS**, on October 1, 2020, the Board received one (1) bid;

**WHEREAS**, the bid submitted by Calderone Enterprises, LLC (hereby referred to as "Calderone") is over budget.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board hereby rejects Calderone's bid for being over budget.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Business Administrator is hereby authorized to re-advertise for bids for snow removal services.

- E. Approve the purchase of twenty-eight (28) Chromebooks with respective licensing and warranties from CDW-G in the amount of \$15,705.20. These units will be funded with monies from the CARES Grant. (Pricing as per ESCNJ 18/19-03 Technology Supplies and Services)
- F. Approve the purchase of 125 Chromebooks with respective licensing and warranties from CDW-G in the amount of \$60,687.50. (Pricing as per ESCNJ 18/19-03 Technology Supplies and Services)
- G. Approve the purchase of one (1) cassette ductless split system air handler for Room 24 in Cavallini from Da-Lor Services, Inc. in the amount of \$9,125.00.
- H. Approve the purchase of one (1) cassette ductless split system air handler for Room 25 in Cavallini from Da-Lor Services, Inc. in the amount of \$9,174.00.

- I. Approve the purchase and installation of six (6) Promethean ActivePanel Titanium 75" Interactive Flat Panels for Reynolds School from Keyboard Consultants, Inc. in the amount of \$25,830.00 (Pricing based on HCESC Co-Op NJ State Approved #34 HUNCCP #HCESC-CAT-19-06 Interactive Technology for classrooms and Meeting Rooms)
- J. Approve the purchase and installation of thirty (30) Promethean ActivePanel Titanium 75" Interactive Flat Panels and one (1) Promethean ActivePanel Titanium 70" Interactive Flat Panel for Cavallini Middle School from Keyboard Consultants, Inc. in the amount of \$141,792.00 (Pricing based on HCESC Co-Op NJ State Approved #34 HUNCCP #HCESC-CAT-19-06 Interactive Technology for Classrooms and Meeting Rooms)
- K. Accept one (1) professional courtesy tuition student, whose name is on file in the Board Office, for the 2020/21 school year.
- L. Approve the annual contract for services for AVT: Auditory Verbal Techniques/Consultative Services with the Bergen County Special Services School District for a student whose name is on file in the Board Office for the 2020/21 school year at a rate not to exceed \$5,610.00.
- M. Approve the following Travel Expenses:

Program Name	Date	Employee	Registration Cost	Travel Cost
Online Summit: Child & Adolescent Mental Health in an Uncertain Time (Online)	n/a	Stefanie Slacin	\$249.99	\$0.00
NNJOSA 20/21 Workshop Series (Online Orff Workshops)	September 2020 – May 2021 (various dates) (not during school hours)	Susan Jarvis	\$100.00	\$0.00
Multi-Sensory Math Strategies for Teaching Math in a Curriculum Based Instruction (Online)	October 16-17, 2020	Mary Lavelle	\$100.00	\$0.00
NJSBA Virtual Workshop 2020: Imagine. Create. Lead (Online)	October 20-22, 2020	Dana Imbasciani Brad Siegel	\$199.00 \$199.00	\$0.00 \$0.00
ASCD Symposium on Building Trauma-Sensitive Schools (Online)	October 28, 2020	Katherine Baker James Dunn Kristen Groen Erika Zeccardi	\$49.00 \$74.00 \$49.00 \$49.00	\$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00
Fighting Racial Slurs and Other Acts of Student Aggression (Online)	October 30, 2020	Samantha Smith	\$125.00	\$0.00
Guide to Managing Challenging Behaviors (Online)	November 2, 2020	Stacy Schiff	\$199.00	\$0.00
Restorative Discipline: Decrease the Need For Traditional Discipline and Increase Instructional Minutes (Online)	November 3, 2020	Samantha Smith	\$279.00	\$0.00
Ethical Problem Solving & Working With Youth and Their Families (Online)	November 4, 2020	Katherine Baker	\$10.00	\$0.00
Intermediate Virtual Institute for Multi-Sensory Education Orton-Gillingham Training (Online)	November 9-13, 2020	Kelsey Byrnes	\$1,275.00	\$0.00

De-Escalating Children in Crisis (Online)	December 8, 2020	Katherine Baker	\$10.00	\$0.00
CBT for Depression & Suicidality (Online)	January 13, 2021	Katherine Baker	\$10.00	\$0.00

**PUBLIC COMMENT: None**

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Quagliani and seconded by Mrs. Ginsberg at 9:00 p.m.

Sincerely,

Dana Imbasciani, Board Secretary