

The Board of Education of the Borough of North Caldwell in the County of Essex, New Jersey, convened in executive session on July 8, 2020 via an online Zoom Meeting at 7:34pm.

Mr. Michael Halik, Business Administrator, indicated that in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting had been properly advertised and the agenda had been posted at the appropriate locations.

In addition, a notice was posted on the Entrances of Grandview Elementary School and on the Board of Education Website, that July 8, 2020 meeting would be done via the Zoom Online Meeting Platform.

ROLL CALL BY THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

Present: Mr. Robert Projansky, President
 Mrs. Mary Mokris, Vice President
 Mrs. Jordan Shumofsky
 Mrs. Mindy Opper
 Mr. Matt Atlas

Also Present: Dr. Linda Freda, Superintendent
 Mr. Michael Halik, Business Administrator / Board Secretary
 Mr. Chris Checchetto, Principal – Gould School
 Mr. Michael Stefanelli, Principal – Grandview School
 Mr. Ian Adlon, Computer Technician

ACTION ITEM

ORGANIZATIONAL RESOLUTION

O1. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the use of the Zoom Online Meeting Platform, to conduct the July 8, 2020, Board Meeting in compliance with A-3850 which was signed by Governor Murphy on March 20, 2020 so that Board of Education business can continue, during the State of Emergency for the COVID-19 crisis.

Moved: Mrs. Mokris

Seconded: Mrs. Opper

Yes: 5

No: 0

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Projansky thanked everyone for attending the meeting and read the following statement:

As we said in our many notices about this meeting, we are going to be discussing issues of critical importance to our children so I'm very happy to see the level of interest in hearing what is going on.

In an unprecedented departure from the norm, I'm going to try to do very little speaking tonight, so I will introduce this briefly and then turn to my colleagues and Dr. Freda.

As you all know, COVID-19 has changed our personal and professional lives in many ways. We are all now exploring ways to get back to some semblance of normal, or whatever the new normal will look like.

And that's what we as a District have to contemplate for our schools. As with other areas of our lives, there is not going to be a perfect solution to this. We need to strive to provide the best educational experience we can while also ensuring that our children are in a safe learning environment.

To that end, this Board formed a committee dedicated to exploring this with Superintendent Dr. Freda, our business Administrator Mr. Halik and their administration how we can reopen our schools with those goals in mind.

As with all major decisions, we always strive to keep the community informed and ensure an iterative and open process that takes into account feedback from our community, and of course, this is no different. So tonight, we are going to hear from our committee and Dr. Freda about our options for reopening. What options are available? What options are not under consideration and why? We will also talk about the next steps after tonight, which include a mechanism for you to provide your thoughts.

It's very important to us that this meeting provides you with all the information you need to consider the options and provide meaningful input. To that end after the presentation, we will give you, the community members, and an opportunity to ask any questions you might have. If you do have questions, please write them down and save them to the end. We will stay as long as we need to in order to answer your questions.

I'm now going to turn this over to our committee members, Mindy and Matt, as well as Dr. Freda to walk us through these issues. Before I do, I want to express my appreciation

to them for their hard work. A tremendous amount of thought and preparation went into this, and they have all been dealing with changes that are taking place on literally a daily basis, including just this morning.

PRESENTATION ON SCHOOL REOPENING OPTIONS FOR 2020-2021

A PowerPoint presentation was given by Dr. Linda Freda, Mr. Matt Atlas, and Mrs. Mindy Oppen to explain all the options for the reopening of schools in September.

BOARD DISCUSSION

Board Members thanked the COVID Committee and Administration for all their hard work to prepare this presentation for the reopening of schools in September.

PUBLIC RECOGNITION

Members of the public asked questions and voiced their opinions in order to afford the board meaningful input that could be incorporated into their survey that would be sent out the day after the meeting.

The following resolution was called at approximately 11:07 p.m.

RESOLVED that in accordance with section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, Public Law 1975, the Board has the authority to adjourn to closed session to discuss matters pertaining to: Legal Matters. Said matters will be made public upon their disposition.

Moved:	Mr. Atlas	Seconded:	Mrs. Oppen
Yes:	5	No:	0

As there was no further business to discuss, the Board adjourned at 11:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael W. Halik

Business Administrator / Board Secretary

