

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 21, 2020 meeting would be done via the Zoom Online Meeting Platform.

ROLL CALL BY THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

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 21, 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. Shumofsky
Yes:	5	No:	0

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Projansky thanked everyone for joining the meeting via Zoom. Mr. Projansky noted that there were 312 people on the Zoom Meeting, and then read the following statement:

Thank you to everyone for joining us tonight. I want to take a few minutes to express my appreciation for your support throughout this process. This is an incredibly difficult task that weighs on us heavily and is certainly dominating our lives right now. We are so grateful to have your support manifest itself in so many ways.

First, we have received an extraordinary amount of input by way of not only the survey but people reaching out to us with questions, comments and ideas. This has been invaluable in helping to shape our thinking. I can tell you that every member of the Board and the administration is listening to what you have to say, and we've gotten concrete, actionable ideas.

Second, even in the face of divergent opinions in the community, we have all been respectful of each other. Even when we disagree, we give our neighbors the benefit of the doubt that they are well-intentioned, with a desire to do what is best for our children. We have a lot to worry about – the quality of education, the health of our family and our neighbors, our jobs, the economy generally and so on. Each of us balances these concerns in our own way, and I'm so appreciative of how members of our community keep an open mind to the lens through which our neighbors them.

Third, we are grateful for the trust that you place in us. As I said, our job is as hard as it has ever been. We sit here as your representatives, charged with making critical decisions in an ever changing situation where new information and mandates are issued daily. Repeating something I heard the other day from an outstanding leader and educator in our community, you can't have a community without trust. We appreciate that you trust us as a District – trust that we are going to make the best decisions we can.

I'm under no illusions as I sit here today. I know that whatever decision we make about school is going to disappoint a lot of people. All of the options are flawed. And the rules change constantly. The state issues mandates on a regular basis, reversing itself on issues less than two weeks before plans are due. And of course we get the double whammy of less money to go with it.

But here's the thing. This is the hand we were dealt and we are going to play it. We are going to play it by taking into account all of the inputs – state guidelines, CDC guidelines, community input and educational experts. We are pursuing every possibility and not

rejecting it until we are confident that it isn't better than another. We are going to make careful, considered decisions that protect our children and staff, and give our kids as good an educational experience as we can under the circumstances. That's our job and we are going to do our level best.

So with that, I want to thank everyone again for everything you are doing. Keep the ideas coming tonight, tomorrow and throughout the process. As I said, this is a dynamic situation and we are going to be looking constantly at how we can improve it.

So let's turn to how tonight is going to work. This is a regular board meeting and we will have regular board business to do. But we are going to start with a report from Dr. Freda and our COVID committee. We will hear about the survey results and what they mean, as well as how the situation has unfolded since our last forum. We will also hear about what has been happening at our restart committee, which consists of administration, board members, parents, teachers, medical professionals and others. After that, the Board will discuss the report.

Normally, the public recognition portion of the meeting – when you can speak about anything on your mind – comes before all of this. However, we are reversing the order so that you can actually hear what is going on before you have to comment on it. Normally, public recognition is a time where you speak to the Board and we don't respond to you directly at that particular moment. However, given the unique nature of this, if you ask a question, we will do our best to answer it, just as we did in the public forum. The goal here is for us to educate each other for as long as it takes, and that is not going to be sacrificed so that I can bang a gavel. Hell, I don't even have my gavel!

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Freda thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for all their input the past few weeks. She reiterated that the Reopening of schools is very complex and we are exploring every option so that children can get back to school in September. She thanked the Board, the members of the restart committee and the administrators for all their hard work over the past few weeks to develop our reopening plans.

Dr. Freda then reported on the following items:

- Restart Committee Report- The Restart Committee met on July 14, 2020 and discussed items pertaining to the reopening of schools. The Restart Committee will be working on the framework of the plan to reopen schools.

- Re-open School Survey Results-The COVID Committee reviewed the community survey results.

The Board of Education Members proceeded to discuss the survey results and talk about the different options for September. It was decided that the board would see the community's input tonight and then the COVID Committee would make a formal recommendation to the Board at the July 28, 2020 Board Meeting. It was noted that the plan presented at the July 28 meeting would be a framework and then it would take the weeks following the meeting to perfect the plan and be ready to open.

PUBLIC RECOGNITION

The following members of the public asked questions and voiced their opinions in order to afford the board meaningful input that could be use when making the Reopening plan:

Rob Klein	Jodie Dratch	Jacek Trzepla
Carla Flynn	Mandee Gruen	Sandy Gencarelli
Kevin Howard	Paul Kinter	Sarah Fan
Rachel Wartski	Lili Jacobson	Abhishek Baheti
George Chen	Latha Jadhav	Michelle Methven
Karen Dolnik-Colacurcio	Anthony Rosciano	Jessica Fenster
Alison Defazio	Giuliana Cocilovo	

Mr. Anthony Rainone asked whether Mr. Projansky was correctly characterized as having been thrilled with the recent Green Brook Country Club Settlement.

Mr. Projansky responded that even before the Green Brook settlement, the District talked about building and expanding our schools to meet the needs of the community. He stated that he would only characterize himself as thrilled if there were no more development in the Borough because the schools do not have physical capacity. However, he acknowledged that this was not possible due to builder remedy lawsuits. He stated that he was pleased that this settlement would eliminate the risk of even higher density family

housing, but he had no opinion on whether this was a good or bad settlement because the Board was not involved in the negotiations and did not have the information to make the judgment as to whether a more or less advantageous settlement could have been negotiated. Mr. Projansky described the space problems within the schools, noting, for example, that to meet the educational needs of the community, the District has had to turn storage spaces into small instruction spaces and cut classrooms in half to make two rooms for more instructional spaces. Mr. Projansky also stated that even the existing space limitations are complicating the District's reopening plans. He opined that the additional development associated with Green Brook should not be minimized because it is not insignificant and will only add to the space issues the District is facing. He stated that this is not to say that the anyone did anything wrong or the settlement was a bad one – reiterating that he did not have the necessary information to make a judgment in that regard. He simply wanted to be transparent about the facts that (1) the District will need to revisit the idea of school expansion when more facts are available, and (2) the development in the Borough will result in necessary, significant expenditure to maintain the desired levels of education. He said he appreciates that the Borough Council thought of the schools in the settlement agreement on Green Brook, and he trusts that the Borough got what the Council felt was the best deal it could under the circumstances.

GENERAL RESOLUTIONS

G1. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the 2020-2021 twelve (12) month calendar.

Moved: Mr. Atlas

Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5

No: 0

G2. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the **tuition contract** with **The Arc of Essex County's Stepping Stones School**, effective for the 2020-2021 school year to commence on July 1, 2020 for the following student:

Student ID# 8005741

Tuition: \$70,350.00

Extraordinary Services: \$42,000

Total Contract: \$112,350.00

Moved: Mr. Atlas

Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5

No: 0

- G3. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the **tuition contract** with **The Arc of Essex County's Stepping Stones School**, effective for the 2020-2021 school year to commence on July 1, 2020 for the following student:

Student ID# 8005392

Tuition: \$70,350.00

Extraordinary Services: none

Total Contract: \$70,350.00

Moved: Mr. Atlas

Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5

No: 0

- G4. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the contract with **The State of New Jersey Department of Human Services Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired** for the 2020-2021 school year effective September 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021 for the following student:

Student ID#8005571

Education Level 2

Total Contract: \$5,000.00

Moved: Mr. Atlas

Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5

No: 0

- G5. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the contract with **The State of New Jersey Department of Human Services Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired** for the 2020-2021 school year effective September 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021 for the following student:

Student ID#8005153

Education Level 1

Total Contract: \$2,100.00

Moved: Mr. Atlas

Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5

No: 0

- G6. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the contract with **Summit Speech School** for the 2020-2021 school year effective September 2020, through June 2021 for the following student:

Student ID#8005153

1 session per week

\$165.00 per hour

Moved: Mr. Atlas

Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5

No: 0

- G7. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the **tuition contract** with **Celebrate the Children**, effective for the 2020-2021 school year to commence on September 8, 2020 for the following student:

Student ID# 8004428

Tuition: \$73,260.00

Extraordinary Services: \$27,000

Total Contract: \$100,260.00

Moved: Mr. Atlas

Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5

No: 0

BUSINESS RESOLUTIONS

- B1. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the **Public and Confidential Minutes of June 23, 2020.**

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky

Seconded: Mrs. Opper

Yes: 5

No: 0

- B2. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the **Public and Confidential Minutes of July 8, 2020.**

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Oppen

Yes: 5 No: 0

- B3. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the following **Payroll(s)**:

June 23, 2020	\$6,247.50
July 15, 2020	\$48,500.99

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Oppen

Yes: 5 No: 0

- B4. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the following **Hand Check Register(s)**:

June 18, 2020	\$100,889.00
June 30, 2020	\$477.93

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Oppen

Yes: 5 No: 0

- B5. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the following **Bills and Claims**:

June 30, 2020	\$17,709.81
June 30, 2020	\$321,420.18
July 13, 2020	\$215,241.87

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Oppen

Yes: 5 No: 0

- B6. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the **Monthly Bills and Claims** dated **July 21, 2020** in the amount of \$92,804.78.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Oppen

Yes: 5 No: 0

- B7. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the attached Board Secretary's and Treasurer's **Monthly Financial Reports** for **May 2020**.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Oppen

Yes: 5

No: 0

- B8. WHEREAS** pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c) 3, the Board Secretary does certify that as of May 2020, no budgetary line item account has encumbrances and expenditures which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district board of education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8 and 18A:22-8.1; therefore be it

RESOLVED that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c) 4, the Board of Education does certify that as of May 2020, the Board Secretary Monthly Financial Report, did not reflect an over expenditure in any Major Account or Fund, and based on the Appropriation Balances reflected on this report and on the advice of District Officials, that sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky

Seconded: Mrs. Oppen

Yes: 5

No: 0

- B9. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the May 2020 line item transfers.

North Caldwell Board of Education						
LINE ITEM TRANSFERS						
Date: May 31, 2020						
To account #	Account Name	Amount	From account #	Account Name	Amount	
11-000-213-610-050-00	HEALTH SUP. GOULD	3,000.00	11-000-261-420-000-02	MAINTENANCE EQUIP REPA	(35,000.00)	
11-000-213-610-060-00	HEALTH SUP. GRANDVIEW	3,000.00	11-000-262-110-060-00	LUNCHROOM AIDES: GDVIEW	(9,000.00)	
11-000-261-420-000-01	MAINT OF BLDG REPAIR SER	44,000.00	11-000-262-621-050-01	ENERGY-NATURAL GAS-GLD	(20,000.00)	
11-000-261-610-000-01	MAINT SUPPLIES - DIST	37,000.00	11-000-262-621-060-01	ENERGY-NATURAL GAS-GDV	(20,000.00)	
11-000-262-610-050-01	CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES GLD	5,000.00	11-000-262-622-050-00	ENERGY-ELECTRICITY-GLD	(25,000.00)	
11-000-262-610-060-02	CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES GDV	5,000.00	11-000-291-270-000-01	HEALTH BENEFITS	(25,200.00)	
11-000-266-800-000-00	SCHOOL SECURITY OTH OBJE	10,000.00	11-110-100-101-060-00	TCHRS SAL: KINDERGARTEN	(15,000.00)	
11-000-291-270-000-02	DENTAL	1,000.00	11-120-100-101-050-02	SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS: SAL	(15,000.00)	
11-190-100-530-010-00	COMM GOULD INTERNET	6,000.00	11-120-100-101-060-02	SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS: SAL	(14,000.00)	
11-190-100-530-060-00	COMM GDV T-1 LINE	6,000.00	11-213-100-101-060-00	RES. ROOM TEACH SAL. GV	(75,000.00)	
11-190-100-610-050-04	SUPPLIES: NON CONS GLD	13,200.00	11-213-100-106-060-00	RESOURCE RM:AIDE SAL GV	(20,230.00)	
11-190-100-610-050-09	TECH SUPPLIES: GOULD	70,000.00				
11-190-100-610-060-09	TECH: SUPPLIES GRANDVIEW	50,000.00				
12-000-300-730-000-00	NON INST EQUIPMENT	20,230.00				
	Total Transfers	273,430.00		Total Transfers	(273,430.00)	
						0.00

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky

Seconded: Mrs. Opper

Yes: 5

No: 0

- B10. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the attached list of obsolete / end of life computer equipment and authorizes the disposal of the equipment.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky

Seconded: Mrs. Opper

Yes: 5

No: 0

PERSONNEL RESOLUTIONS

- P1. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the Professional Development Workshops/Conferences costs for the following teachers:

Name	Date	Workshop	Cost	Travel
Rego, Y.	7/29/20	Distance Learning	\$279.00	

Moved: Mrs. Opper

Seconded: Mrs. Mokris

Yes: 5

No: 0

- P2. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accept the resignation of Agnes Icker effective July 14, 2020.

Moved: Mrs. Opper

Seconded: Mrs. Mokris

Yes: 5

No: 0

- P3. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accept the retirement of **Zena Lisa** Effective August 1, 2020.

Moved: Mrs. Opper

Seconded: Mrs. Mokris

Yes: 5

No: 0

- P4. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the adjusted pro-rated eligible tuition reimbursement at a rate of \$15.79 per credit to the following individuals for the 2019-2020 school year as per Article VI of the collective bargaining agreement.

Summer/Fall 2019/Spring 2020

Name	# of Credits	Amount Reimbursed
DellaValle, Genine	9	\$142.11
Doolen, Argiro	12	\$189.48
Doyen, Gabrielle	9	\$142.11
Linden, Lisa	6	\$94.74
Mitchell, Michelle	9	\$142.11
Veniero, Sarah	3	\$47.37
Zimmermann, Cathleen	9	\$142.11

Moved: Mrs. Oppen

Seconded: Mrs. Mokris

Yes: 5

No: 0

P5. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the revised contract for **Gianna DeFrank** effective September 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

Moved: Mrs. Oppen

Seconded: Mrs. Mokris

Yes: 5

No: 0

P6. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve **John Messier** as a part-time custodian at a rate of \$20.50 per hour effective September 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

Moved: Mrs. Oppen

Seconded: Mrs. Mokris

Yes: 5

No: 0

P7. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve **Gerard Tedesco** as a part-time custodian at a rate of \$18.50 per hour effective September 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

Moved: Mrs. Oppen

Seconded: Mrs. Mokris

Yes: 5

No: 0

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Shumofsky reported she attended the NJSBA Virtual Delegate Assembly and voted on the Policy language change for Regional School Board Seat Vacancies. She noted that

the motion passed so in the future if a North Caldwell seat opened at West Essex Regional BOE the North Caldwell Board of Ed would get to select the candidate that would fill the seat.

Buildings and Grounds Committee Report:

Mrs. Oppen reported that Mr. Atlas, Mrs. Oppen, Dr. Freda, Mr. Halik, Mr. Falco, and Mr. Barnett and members of the Town Council met at Green Brook County Club with Eric Witmond to see the land that would be dedicated to the town in the even the Green Brook County Club was developed. It was reported that it could be costly to build on the land due to the topography and the need for blasting of rock. At first glance, it did not look viable for a school building due to the challenges mentioned in addition to being cost prohibitive. In the future months the committee hopes to find out more information.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Projansky wished Ms. Zena Lisa a happy retirement after 17 years in North Caldwell and 31 years in the teaching profession. The Board members echoed the sentiment and wished her the best in her future endeavors.

Dr. Freda thanked Mrs. Lisa for her years of service and dedication to the students in North Caldwell. She spoke about Mrs. Lisa's commitment to lifelong learning so that she continued to grow and learn: thereby, ensuring that she was able to differentiate instruction and provide targeted academic assistance so that all students were able to progress academically. Mrs. Lisa will be a hard act to follow and she will be greatly missed.

The Board discussed possible Tuition contracts for a Kindergarten and 6th grade student moving into the district in September or early Fall. It was decided that a tuition contract would be put on one of the next agendas.

The following resolution was called at approximately 11:00 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: Mrs. Oppen Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

As there was no further business to discuss, the Board adjourned at 12:10am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael W. Halik

Business Administrator / Board Secretary