The Board of Education of the Borough of North Caldwell in the County of Essex, New Jersey, convened in executive session on September 22, 2020 via an online Zoom Meeting at 7:31 p.m.

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 September 22, 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. Mindy Opper Mr. Matt Atlas

Absent: Mrs. Jordan Shumofsky

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 September 22, 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: Mr. Atlas

Yes: 4 No: 0

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Projansky thanked everyone for joining our meeting via Zoom. Mr. Projansky noted that there were 83 people on the Zoom Meeting. Mr. Projansky congratulated Mrs. Gallo and her family on the birth of a baby girl, Taylor Leigh. Mr. Projansky then proceeded to thank everyone for all of their hard work to make sure the district was able to open for in-person instruction. He stressed that we should be proud of this accomplishment, as many other districts were not able to reopen for in-person instruction. The reopening has been successful so far. There have been some blips from time to time but school personnel is readily available to work through any issues so that they can be resolved. Mr. Projansky personally thanked Dr. Linda Freda, our Superintendent, in addition to our teachers, staff, Ian Adlon, our Principals, the Business Administrator, Mrs. Eisinger and Mrs. Linden for working to ensure that all of the children, whether in-person, hybrid or remote, have a robust educational experience. He encouraged parents to vocalize any concerns they have so that they can be addressed promptly. He recommended talking with the teacher and, if it is not resolved, then the Principals. He thanked parents for their patience and understanding, given that this is our first time doing this educational model. He stated that there is a general recognition that we are all trying to make this experience better every day.

Mr. Projansky then addressed a rumor about a 100 million dollar bond on which the Board of Education was going to vote. He informed the community that this rumor was not true. The district has been talking about school expansion due to our school spaces being pushed to the limits as a result of new construction and housing turnover in town. He stated the Board has talked many times, and indeed prepared studies and held public forums, about the need to expand but the cost of the building projects had estimates ranging from \$25-35 Million depending on the plan selected by the Board in conjunction with feedback from the community. He stated that this discussion was put on hold for the short term to see what happened with Greenbrook Country Club, but he expected it to be revisited in the near future.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Freda thanked the community members and parents for understanding and working with us as we worked to reopen our schools. Since reopening our faculty and staff have been impressed with how happy the children are and how well they are following the new procedures. The students appear to have adjusted to the "new normal." Dr. Freda

thanked the NCPE for all of their assistance. She reminded everyone that next Monday, September 28th 2020, the district would be closed for Yom Kippur.

Matt Atlas reminded all parents to fill out daily health forms in a timely manner each morning. He also extended his thanks to everyone who work tirelessly to ensure our schools were able to reopen

PUBLIC RECOGNITION

Lauren Kestenbaum who lives on Evergreen Drive asked a question about the upcoming holidays and traveling protocol for return.

GENERAL RESOLUTIONS

G1. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve submission of the 2020-2021 Comprehensive Maintenance Plan (M-1 Form).

Moved: Mrs. Mokris Seconded: Mrs. Opper

Yes: 4 No: 0

G2. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the agreement with David Fost, MD as the School Physician for the 2020-2021 School Year as per N.J.S.A. 18A:40-1 at the contract sum of \$6,000.

Moved: Mrs. Mokris Seconded: Mrs. Opper

Yes: 4 No: 0

G3. RESOLVED that the Board of Education accept Michael Halik's 2020-2021 merit goals as approved by the county superintendent. (attached)

Moved: Mrs. Mokris Seconded: Mrs. Opper

Yes: 4 No: 0

G4. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the tuition (non-resident) Pupil Agreement between the North Caldwell Board of Education and Justin and Jamie Getz effective September 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, in the amount of \$15,131.00.

Moved: Mrs. Mokris Seconded: Mrs. Opper

Yes: 4 No: 0

G5. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the tuition (non-resident) Pupil Agreement (Grade 1) between the North Caldwell Board of Education and Richard and Dina Laudadio effective September 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, in the amount of \$17,617.00.

Moved: Mrs. Mokris Seconded: Mrs. Opper

Yes: 4 No: 0

G6. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the tuition (non-resident) Pupil Agreement (Grade 4) between the North Caldwell Board of Education and Richard and Dina Laudadio effective September 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, in the amount of \$17,617.00.

Moved: Mrs. Mokris Seconded: Mrs. Opper

Yes: 4 No: 0

G7. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the tuition (non-resident) Pupil Agreement (Grade 4) between the North Caldwell Board of Education and Henry and Jennifer Ko effective September 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, in the amount of \$17,617.00.

Moved: Mrs. Mokris Seconded: Mrs. Opper

Yes: 4 No: 0

- **G8. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the following Board Goals for the 2020-2021 School Year:
 - 1. Continue to monitor and assess the anticipated housing and population expansion in the district and its potential impact on school capacity through liaison with community leaders. Develop architectural options to solve current and future space limitations at both schools.
 - 2. Deliver effective student instruction in both in-person and remote settings, while complying with all CDC guidelines related to the Covid-19 pandemic to ensure a safe environment for students, teachers and staff. Continue to

monitor effectiveness of program with regard to student achievement and health risks and be prepared to make immediate adjustments as necessary.

- 3. Foster an inclusive and caring school environment that is sensitive to the differing cultures and interests of all children and their families.
- 4. Continue to improve community relations and engagement and provide the community with timely and transparent information on programs, activities and priorities.
- 5. Maintain ongoing and meaningful dialogue with Borough government to resolve identified priorities and engage in consistent dialogue around priorities such as transportation, safety, shared services and housing development.
- 6. On an ongoing basis, evaluate and refine as necessary the processes, outcomes, and tools for measuring and analyzing student achievement data and metrics.

Moved: Mrs. Mokris Seconded: Mrs. Opper

Yes: 4 No: 0

BUSINESS RESOLUTIONS

B1. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the Public and Confidential Minutes of September 1, 2020.

Moved: Mrs. Opper Seconded: Mr. Atlas

Yes: 4 No: 0

B2. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the following **Payroll(s)**:

September 15, 2020 \$352,270.46 September 15, 2020 \$8,272.24

Moved: Mrs. Opper Seconded: Mr. Atlas

Yes: 4 No: 0

B3. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the following **Hand Check**

Register(s):

September 16, 2020 \$72.00

Moved: Mrs. Opper Seconded: Mr. Atlas

Yes: 4 No: 0

B4. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the following **Bills and**

Claims:

September 8, 2020 \$8,361.68 September 8, 2020 \$212,047.56

Moved: Mrs. Opper Seconded: Mr. Atlas

Yes: 4 No: 0

B5. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the Monthly Bills and Claims dated September 22, 2020 in the amount of \$330,127.04.

Moved: Mrs. Opper Seconded: Mr. Atlas

Yes: 4 No: 0

B6. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the Long- Range Facility Plan Update proposal #20-26 from **DiCara / Rubino Architects.,** in the amount of \$7,500.

Moved: Mrs. Opper Seconded: Mr. Atlas

Yes: 4 No: 0

PERSONNEL RESOLUTIONS

P1. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve Family Medical Leave for **Leigh Gallo** effective October 6, 2020 through January 12, 2021.

Moved: Mrs. Opper Seconded: Mrs. Mokris

Yes: 4 No: 0

RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve **Debra Gambella** as a substitute P2. teacher for the 2020-2021 school year pending certification.

> Moved: Mrs. Opper Seconded: Mrs. Mokris

No: 0 Yes: 4

P3. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the following teachers for in home instruction at a rate of \$50.00 per hour for **student #800555**:

> Michael Gesario Greg De Rosa

Moved: Mrs. Opper Seconded: Mrs. Mokris

Yes: 4 No: 0

P4. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the resignation of **Sharon** Pontrella effective October 30, 2020.

> Moved: Mrs. Opper Seconded: Mrs. Mokris

Yes: 4 No: 0

RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the following lunch aides P5. effective September 8, 2020 through June 18, 2021:

> Karin Cirillo Kathleen Householder

Nancy DellaValle Maureen Miller Gail De Rosa Wendy Montano Maria Girardi **Heather Riggio Janet Gregory** Patty Ryan Cindy Householder MaryJo Zerance

Rosemary Tomea

Moved: Mrs. Opper Seconded: Mrs. Mokris

Yes: 4 No: 0 **P6. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the change of start date for **Nicole Cornacchia** effective September 21, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

Moved: Mrs. Opper Seconded: Mrs. Mokris

Yes: 4 No: 0

P7. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve **Pamela Kennedy** for up 14 hours per week to provide occupational therapy effective September 14, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

Moved: Mrs. Opper Seconded: Mrs. Mokris

Yes: 4 No: 0

P8. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve **Samantha Barbella** as a teacher at a prorated salary of \$53,663.00 MA Step 1 effective October 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

Moved: Mrs. Opper Seconded: Mrs. Mokris

Yes: 4 No: 0

P9. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the following teachers for Title I tutoring at a rate of \$75.00 per hour effective September 23, 2020:

Angela Castiglia Linda Nikow
Aggie Doolen Toni Arena
Gabby Doyen Melissa Schlachter
Meghan Keenan Greg De Rosa
Victoria Parisi Marian Smith
Kim Shay Charlene Thomas

Moved: Mrs. Opper Seconded: Mrs. Mokris

Yes: 4 No: 0

OLD BUSINESS

Dr. Freda discussed a school calendar revision, which was required due to Executive Order #177 from Governor Murphy that requires schools to close on Election Day.

North Caldwell will now make Tuesday, November $3^{\rm rd}$ a remote learning day so that we can be in compliance.

NEW BUSINESS

None

As there was no further business to discuss, the Board adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael W. Halik

Business Administrator / Board Secretary