

The Board of Education of the Borough of North Caldwell in the County of Essex, New Jersey, convened in executive session on February 17, 2021, via an online Zoom Meeting at 7:34 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 February 17, 2021 meeting would be done via the Zoom Online Meeting Platform.

Mr. Halik swore in Johanna Stroeve as a member of the Board.

Roll call by the Business Administrator:

Present: Mr. Robert Projansky, President
Mrs. Mindy Oppen, Vice President
Mrs. Jordan Shumofsky
Mrs. Sapna Malige
Mrs. Johanna Stroeve

Absent: None

Also Present: Dr. Linda Freda, Superintendent
Mr. Michael Halik, Business Administrator / Board Secretary
Mr. Chris Chechetto, Gould/Mountain Principal
Mr. Michael Stefanelli, Grandview School Principal
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 February 17, 2021, 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. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Oppen

Yes: 5 No: 0

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Projansky referred everyone to the statement on the district's website including the eighty-eight (88) people attending the zoom meeting.

He congratulated Mrs. Goldfarb on the birth of her son and noted that it was an amazing story as he saw an article on *Fox 5* regarding the birth on the George Washington Bridge.

Mr. Projansky reported on COVID stating CDC guidelines recommend six (6) feet distance when possible between students. The Health Department has also advised there should be six (6) feet between students and the COVID Committee will report further later in the meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Freda congratulated Mrs. Stroever on her selection to the Board. She thanked the Wormser Family for their donation of hand sanitizer as well as the North Caldwell Partnership for Education's fund raising for PPE for our schools.

Mr. Gary Higgins, from Lerch, Vinci and Higgins, Auditors, presented our Annual Audit. He stated the district's financials as presented are in the highest opinion possible. Mr. Higgins had zero recommendations reporting our financials are in wonderful condition. He thanked Mr. Halik and office staff for being flexible this year. Mr. Projansky then congratulated Mr. Halik and Dr. Freda on a superb job.

PUBLIC RECOGNITION

Alison Levitt, 2 Coventry Lane – thanked the staff for doing a great job; however, she feels it's time to bring back the 4th and 5th grade students to school every day. She suggested considering half day am/pm sessions.

Lili Jacobson, 5 Windridge Drive – stated it is a challenge having 4th grade not in school every day, can we consider bring in the students with IEPs every day.

Grace Cordovano, 28 Cambridge Drive – thanked the Board for clarifying the six (6) feet distance and inquired about a plan for reopening the school to full time for 4th and 5th grade students.

Michelle Solow, 2 Eton Drive – e-mailed the following question and/or suggestion:
I would like to make a suggestion that any future snow days be virtual days instead. My kids come home with remote materials each time there is snow in the forecast, so I would think the teachers are prepared. I know my kids would actually prefer a remote

morning because they still get to play in the snow in the afternoon. I also believe it would help working parents.
Thanks so much for your time.

GENERAL RESOLUTIONS

- G1. WHEREAS,** The Board of Education of the North Caldwell School District in the County of Essex, New Jersey (the "Board"), desires to proceed with a school facilities project consisting generally of:

LRFP MAJOR AMENDMENT UPDATE

WHEREAS, the Board now seeks to take the initial steps in order to proceed with the Project:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF NORTH CALDWELL SCHOOL DISTRICT IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, as follows:

Section 1. In accordance with the requirements of Section 6A:26-3 of the New Jersey Administrative Code, the Board hereby approves the Major Amendment Update to its previously approved LRFP and the Board further authorizes the submission of same to the Essex County Superintendent of Schools and the New Jersey Department of Education for approval.

Section 2. The Board hereby authorizes the amendment to its Long-Range Facilities Plan in order to reflect the proposed Project(s).

Section 3. The School Administration and such other officers and agents of the Board as are necessary, including the Board Attorney, Bond Counsel and Architect, are hereby authorized to perform such other acts, to execute such other documents and to do such other things as are necessary to implement the determinations of the Board set forth in this resolution; including the submission of Information to the New Jersey Department of Education as applicable to the proposed Project.

Section 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Oppen

Yes: 5 No: 0

- G2. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the revised Committees and Membership to include Johanna Stroever, the newly appointed Board Member.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Oppen

Yes: 5 No: 0

- G3. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education rescind Resolution G5 from January 5, 2021, for an incorrect student ID.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Opper

Yes: 5 No: 0

- G4. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve modification to the transportation contract with Caldwell West Caldwell for Student #8005492 attending The Arc of Essex County's Stepping Stones School, to include an Aide when necessary, at \$55.00 per day.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Opper

Yes: 5 No: 0

- G5. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the facilities use form submitted by North Caldwell Recreation for Baseball/Softball 2021 for field use only.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Opper

Yes: 5 No: 0

- G6. WHEREAS**, NJAC 6A:23A-5.3 provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district's participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2021-2022 school year, and

WHEREAS, the North Caldwell Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that we project having fewer than forty (40) Medicaid eligible classified students;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Caldwell Board of Education hereby authorizes the Chief School Administrator to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Essex an appropriate waiver of the requirements of NJAC 6A23A-5.3 for the 2021-2022 school year.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Opper

Yes: 5 No: 0

- G7. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the non-resident Tuition Pupil Agreement between the North Caldwell Board of Education and Dan Wang and Wei Hu for their daughter, **Yiru Wang**, to attend second grade effective February 10, 2021 through June 30, 2021.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Oppen

Yes: 5 No: 0

BUSINESS RESOLUTIONS

- B1. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the **Public and Confidential Minutes of January 19, 2021.**

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Malige

Yes: 4 No: 0

Abstain: Mrs. Stroeve

- B2. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the following **Payroll:**

January 29, 2021	\$354,980.95
February 12, 2021	\$376,732.34

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Malige

Yes: 5 No: 0

- B3. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the following **Bills and Claims:**

January 28, 2021	\$270,302.61
February 17, 2021	\$283,366.37

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Malige

Yes: 5 No: 0

- B4. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the following Title 1 Tutoring:

January 2021

\$10,350.00

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Malige

Yes: 5 No: 0

- B5. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the attached Board Secretary's and Treasurer's **Monthly Financial Reports** for **December 2020**.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Malige

Yes: 5 No: 0

- B6. WHEREAS** pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c) 3, the Board Secretary does certify that as of **December 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 **December 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. Malige

Yes: 5 No: 0

- B7. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the December 2020 line item transfers.

North Caldwell Board of Education						
LINE ITEM TRANSFERS						
Date:	December 31, 2020					
To account #	Account Name	Amount	From account #	Account Name	Amount	
11-000-100-566-000-00	TUITION- PRI. SCH HDCP	49,000.00	11-000-221-320-050-00	CURR DEVELOP PURCH SERV	(1,250.00)	
11-000-213-300-050-00	NURSE PURCHASE SER - GLD	1,200.00	11-000-221-320-060-00	CURR DEVELOP PURCH SERV	(1,250.00)	
11-000-213-300-060-00	NURSE PURCHASE SERV - GV	2,330.00	11-000-223-320-050-00	PROF. DEVELOPMENT GOULD	(5,000.00)	
11-000-217-320-000-00	EX ORD SERV- OUT OF DIST	64,520.00	11-000-223-320-060-00	PROF. DEVELOPMENT GV	(5,000.00)	
11-000-223-320-050-00	PROF. DEVELOPMENT GOULD	4,300.00	11-000-262-110-050-00	LUNCHROOM AIDES: GOULD	(4,000.00)	
11-000-223-320-060-00	PROF. DEVELOPMENT GV	4,300.00	11-000-262-110-060-00	LUNCHROOM AIDES: GDVIEW	(4,400.00)	
11-000-240-103-050-00	PRIN. SALARY GOULD	1,700.00	11-000-262-621-050-01	ENERGY-NATURAL GAS-GLD	(2,500.00)	
11-000-240-103-060-00	PRIN. SALARY GRANDVIEW	1,900.00	11-000-262-621-050-02	ENERGY-NATURAL GAS-MTN	(2,500.00)	
11-000-240-104-050-00	DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL ED	400.00	11-000-262-622-050-00	ENERGY-ELECTRICITY-GLD	(10,000.00)	
11-000-240-104-060-00	DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL ED	400.00	11-000-270-511-000-00	TRANSPORTATION: REGULAR	(32,500.00)	
11-000-240-105-050-00	SECRETARIES SALARY: GLD	500.00	11-000-270-515-000-00	TRANSPORTATION: SPECIAL	(20,500.00)	
11-000-240-105-060-00	SECRETARIES SALARY: GDV	500.00	11-000-291-260-000-06	WORKERS COMPENSATION INS	(6,000.00)	
11-000-251-100-000-00	CENTRAL OFFICE-SALARIES	2,700.00	11-000-291-270-000-01	HEALTH BENEFITS	(65,130.00)	
11-000-252-110-000-00	TECHNOLOGY ADMIN	800.00	11-000-291-270-000-03	PRESCRIPTION	(6,020.00)	
11-000-262-104-050-00	DIR BLDG/GRND GLD	700.00	11-213-100-106-060-00	RESOURCE RM:AIDE SAL GV	(2,500.00)	
11-000-262-104-060-01	DIR BLDG/GRND GDV	700.00	11-219-100-101-050-00	HOME INST SP ED GOULD	(500.00)	
11-000-262-490-050-00	WATER CHARGE: GOULD/MTN	2,000.00	11-219-100-101-060-00	HOME INST SP ED GV	(500.00)	
11-150-100-101-050-00	HOME INSTR: SALARY GLD	1,600.00				
11-190-100-610-060-09	TECH: SUPPLIES GRANDVIEW	30,000.00				
	Total Transfers	169,550.00		Total Transfers	(169,550.00)	
						0.00

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Malige

Yes: 5 No: 0

B8. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the following **Hand Check Registers:**

January 26, 2021 \$ 51,567.12
February 5, 2021 \$ 66.00

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Malige

Yes: 5 No: 0

B9. RESOLVED that the Board of Education accept the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, Auditor's Synopsis of Audit and Management Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Malige

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
DellaValle, G.	3/3,3/10	NJIDA/NJSHA	\$90.00	
Cirillo,K.	1/29,2/19	CPI	\$39.00	
Decker, L.	1/29,2/19	CPI	\$39.00	
Egan, E.	3/3, 3/10	NJIDA/NJSHA	\$90.00	
Egan, E.	1/29,2/19	CPI	\$39.00	
Eisinger, L.	3/3, 3/10	NJIDA/NJSHA	\$90.00	
Garthwaite, J.	3/3,3/10	NJIDA/NJSHA	\$90.00	
Garthwaite, J.	1/29,2/19	CPI	\$39.00	\$4.80 shipping
Grimaldi, L.	3/3, 3/10	NJIDA/NJSHA	\$115.00	
Householder, C.	1/29,2/19	CPI	\$39.00	
Householder, K.	1/29,2/19	CPI	\$39.00	
Husk, J.	3/3, 3/10	NJIDA/NJSHA	\$115.00	
Johnson, S.	3/3,3/10	NJIDA/NJSHA	\$90.00	
Laurenzano, D.	3/3,3/10	NJIDA/NJSHA	\$90.00	
Riggio, H.	1/29,2/19	CPI	\$39.00	
Shay, K.	3/3,3/10	NJIDA/NJSHA	\$115.00	
Sibilia, L.	3/3,3/10	NJIDA/NJSHA	\$90.00	
Smith, M.	3/3,3/10	NJIDA/NJSHA	\$115.00	
Socci, D.	3/3,3/10	NJIDA/NJSHA	\$90.00	
Stefanelli, M.	1/29,2/19	CPI	\$39.00	
Veniero, S.	3/3,3/10	NJIDA/NJSHA	\$90.00	
Veniero, S.	1/29,2/19	CPI	\$39.00	

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Opper

Yes: 5

No: 0

- P2. WHEREAS,** The below listed staff members have applied for tuition reimbursement in accordance with Article 6, Section C of the negotiated agreement, and have completed requirements in accordance with the same.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, That the Board approve the reimbursement of tuition in the amounts listed for the courses attended during the **Fall of 2020:**

Name	Course	Grade	School	# of Credits	Amount Paid
Egan, Emily	Virtual Learning for Students w/Disabilities	A	MSU	3	\$900.00

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Opper

Yes: 5 No: 0

- P3. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the extension of Child Rearing Leave for **Amanda Cosentino** from March 1, 2021 to June 21, 2021.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Opper

Yes: 5 No: 0

- P4. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve Family Medical Leave for **Allison Goldfarb** effective February 22, 2021 to May 25, 2021.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Opper

Yes: 5 No: 0

- P5. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve Child Rearing Leave for **Allison Goldfarb** effective May 26, 2021 to June 21, 2021.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Opper

Yes: 5 No: 0

- P6. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve **Jake Zimmermann** as a substitute teacher for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year pending certification.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Oppen

Yes: 5 No: 0

- P7. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve **Danielle Gonnelli** as a substitute teacher for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year pending certification.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Oppen

Yes: 5 No: 0

- P8. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve **Giana De Frank** for Title I Tutoring at a rate of \$75.00 per hour effective February 17, 2021.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Oppen

Yes: 5 No: 0

- P9. **RESOLVED** upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that employment of **employee #63000** is terminated effective February 11, 2021.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Oppen

Yes: 5 No: 0

- P10. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve **Molly Boag** as a substitute teacher for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year pending a favorable criminal history review.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Oppen

Yes: 5 No: 0

OLD BUSINESS

The COVID Committee reported they met to review the new CDC recommendations. They stated we have been following their recommendations since September, which speaks to why the district is open.

Our community is considered an “Orange Zone” which requires six (6) feet distance between students. Districts can move to less than 6 feet when in the yellow zone when other mitigating strategies are implemented. The health department is advising the district to adhere to the regional color zone. We have a plan for bringing back all 4th and 5th grade students every day. A survey will go out to the community to determine community comfort with less than 6 feet of separation between students.

The following resolution was called at approximately 8:26 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: personnel negotiations update and legal. Said matters will be made public upon their disposition.

Moved:	Mrs. Oppen	Seconded:	Mrs. Shumofsky
Yes:	4	No:	0

As there was no further business to discuss, the Board adjourned at 9:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Halik
Business Administrator / Board Secretary