

The Board of Education of the Borough of North Caldwell in the County of Essex, New Jersey, convened in executive session on April 28, 2021, via an online Zoom Meeting at 7:32 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 April 28, 2021 meeting would be done via the Zoom Online Meeting Platform.

Roll call by the Business Administrator:

Present: Mr. Robert Projansky, President
 Mrs. Mindy Opper, 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 Principal
 Mr. Ian Adlon, Computer Technician

ACTION ITEM

ORGANIZATIONAL RESOLUTION

01. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the use of the Zoom Online Meeting Platform, to conduct the April 28, 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. Malige

Yes: 5 No: 0

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Projansky reported that sixty-one (61) people were attending the zoom meeting. He apologized in advance for changing the meeting format due to a need to go into executive session, after public recognition, to discuss a legal matter prior to voting on the resolutions.

He thanked the North Caldwell Partnership for Education (NCPE) members and the teachers who ran the recent auction, as well as the people who bid on and purchased the items. It was great to see such a successful on-line event.

Mr. Projansky said "good-bye" to Mrs. Gregory who he stated has been in the district as long as he could remember, 2008. He said she has been a terrific employee and will be missed, but congratulated her on her retirement and wished her the best.

Mr. Projansky reported that there were several construction questions on the ballot this April by other Boards of Education state-wide with 270 million of 300 million being approved. He reiterated we will have to go back to the idea of expansion soon for our district to maintain programs and class sizes.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Freda thanked Mrs. Gregory stating she couldn't speak more highly of her professionalism and dedication to all students. Mrs. Gregory was a "utility" player who was able to assume any position and was always willing to help out whenever and wherever she was asked to do so.

Dr. Freda spoke about the give back snow day that had to be put in the calendar. She noted that it can be done at the end of year or Memorial Day weekend. She said when she spoke with the NCEA Presidents they said 72% of teachers prefer Friday on Memorial Day weekend. Dr. Freda then said the Board will have to discuss later and then vote.

COVID COMMITTEE REPORT

Mrs. Opper gave an update on the flow of information being reported relative to COVID and reopening. We are at a different point with receiving information to make decisions from credible sources. The decisions are now being made with as much concrete information available to us. In turn, we decided to remove the barriers on desks, due to the CDC and Health Department saying they are ineffective and transmission has not been an issue in schools. In addition, they were having an adverse effect on the education of the students. We are happy to report 88% of Gould staff members have been vaccinated and 80% of Grandview staff. However, vaccination

numbers in the community have been harder to obtain. As for next year, we are working on several scenarios, but expect full days every day with lunch. However, it is one of the biggest issues at this point. Rest assure we are working on it with every intention of being in school every day for a full day.

BUDGET REPORT

Mr. Halik presented the 2021-2022 Annual School Budget. He was then thanked by the Board for presenting next year's school budget.

PUBLIC RECOGNITION

Jacek Trzepla, 15 Robinhill Road - inquired as to the number of special education children in the district. He also wanted to know if the district would provide busing to help parents as they go back into offices vs. working from home.

Grace Cordovano, 28 Cambridge Drive - thanked the COVID Committee for the information they have been providing and thanked the staff for getting vaccinated. She also asked if parents could volunteer to help for lunch next year and then asked about map test trends.

Rob Koch, 28 Cypress Avenue - had a question regarding outdoor activities for graduation and other end of year activities.

Matthew DeFazio, 1255 Stephanie Drive - thanked everyone for all the work they've done this year and stated it was very much appreciated. He also had a question on the return of unused snow days.

Robin Projansky, 2 Falcon Court - inquired about the dividers being taken down in the classrooms and asked if it could be a parent's choice vs. a school choice.

Anthony Rainone, 15 Aspen Drive - said thank you for everything you have done this year. You've worked hard to have the students in and it's appreciated.

Motion to go into Executive at 8:17 p.m. with an approximate return of 8:30 p.m. to discuss a legal matter prior to voting.

Executive started: 8:19 p.m.

Executive ended: 8:29 p.m.

Return to Public Session 8:30 p.m.

GENERAL RESOLUTIONS

- G1. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve **Policy 1620, Administrative Employment Contracts**, at second reading.

Moved: Mrs. Stroeve Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

- G2. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve **Policy 5330.05, Seizure Action Plan**, at second reading.

Moved: Mrs. Stroeve Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

- G3. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve **Regulation 5330.05, Seizure Action Plan**, at second reading.

Moved: Mrs. Stroeve Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

- G4. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve **Policy 6440, Cooperative Purchasing**, at second reading.

Moved: Mrs. Stroeve Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

- G5. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve **Policy 6470.01, Electronic Funds Transfer and Claimant Certification**, at second reading.

Moved: Mrs. Stroeve Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

- G6. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve **Regulation 6470.01, Electronic Funds Transfer and Claimant Certification**, at second reading.

Moved: Mrs. Stroeve Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

G7. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve **Policy 7440, School District Security**, at second reading.

Moved: Mrs. Stroeve Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

G8. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve **Regulation 7440, School District Security**, at second reading.

Moved: Mrs. Stroeve Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

G9. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve **Policy 7450, Property Inventory**, at second reading.

Moved: Mrs. Stroeve Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

G10. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve **Policy 7510, Use of School Facilities**, at second reading.

Moved: Mrs. Stroeve Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

G11. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve **Regulation 7510, Use of School Facilities**, at second reading.

Moved: Mrs. Stroeve Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

G12. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve **Policy 8420, Emergency and Crisis Situation**, at second reading.

Moved: Mrs. Stroeve Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

- G13. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve tuition contract with New Beginnings effective for the 2021-2022 school year to commence on July 6, 2021 for the following student:

Student #8005395

Tuition:	\$85,368.16
Extraordinary Services:	\$46,640.00
Total Contract:	\$132,008.16

Moved:	Mrs. Stroeveer	Seconded:	Mrs. Shumofsky
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Yes:	5	No:	0
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- G14. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve tuition contract with P.G. Chambers School effective for the 2021-2022 school year to commence on July 6, 2021 for the following student:

Student #8005571

Tuition:	\$89,880.00
Total Contract:	\$89,880.00

Moved:	Mrs. Stroeveer	Seconded:	Mrs. Shumofsky
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Yes:	5	No:	0
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- G15. RESOLVED** that the Board of Health approve payment to **NeurAbilities Health** for a neurodisabilities assessment in the amount of \$2,750.00 for **student #8005677**.

Moved:	Mrs. Stroeveer	Seconded:	Mrs. Shumofsky
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Yes:	5	No:	0
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- G16. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve tuition contract with DCCF d/b/a **Limitless** effective for the 2021-2022 school year to commence on July 7th, 2021 and terminate on August 6th, 2021, for the following student:

Student #8004428

Tuition:	\$7,945.00
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Moved:	Mrs. Stroeveer	Seconded:	Mrs. Shumofsky
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Yes: 5 No: 0

- G17. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the facilities use application received on behalf of Mr. Whitney for soccer training for the 2021-2022 school year.

Moved: Mrs. Stroeve Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

- G18. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the review of the Application for State School Aid and review of District Report of Transported Resident Students as of October 15, 2018, and the review of Extraordinary Aid for Special Education Costs for fiscal year 2018-2019 from the New Jersey Department of Education Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance.

Moved: Mrs. Stroeve Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

- G19. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the revised 2020-2021 school Calendar changing last day of school.

Moved: Mrs. Stroeve Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 1 No: 4

Mr. Projansky

Mrs. Oppen
Mrs. Shumofsky
Mrs. Malige
Mrs. Stroeve

- G20. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the revised 2020-2021 school Calendar to reflect May 28, 2021, Memorial Day, snow give back day.

Moved: Mrs. Oppen Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

BUSINESS RESOLUTIONS

- B1. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the **Public and Confidential Minutes of March 16, 2021.**

Moved: Mrs. Oppen Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

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

March 31, 2021	\$352,516.53
April 15, 2021	\$375,731.20

Moved: Mrs. Oppen Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

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

March 16, 2021	\$209,585.00
March 16, 2021	\$ 66.00
March 30, 2021	\$ 130.16
April 13, 2021	\$ 51,372.97

Moved: Mrs. Oppen Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

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

April 12, 2021	\$212,230.53
April 28, 2021	\$523,068.41

Moved: Mrs. Oppen Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

- B5. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the following Title 1 Tutoring:

March 2021	\$11,343.75
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Moved: Mrs. Oppen Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

- B6. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the attached Board Secretary's and Treasurer's **Monthly Financial Reports for February 2021.**

Moved: Mrs. Oppen Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

- B7. WHEREAS** pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c) 3, the Board Secretary does certify that as of **February 2021**, 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 **February 2021**, 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. Oppen Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

- B8. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve canceling stale dated budget checks for 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school year as listed below:

<u>Check No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
34783	\$7,210.50
34817	\$ 133.06
35278	\$1,181.30
35307	\$ 180.00
35727	\$ 567.00
35870	\$ 360.00
35895	\$3,485.00
36004	\$1,567.44
36166	\$ 115.96
36459	\$ 656.07

36519	\$7,058.75
36694	\$ 139.98
36704	\$ 642.00
36730	\$ 798.00

Moved: Mrs. Oppen Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

- B9. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve canceling stale dated payroll checks for 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school year as listed below:

<u>Check No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
85102	\$ 160.46
88203	\$ 81.31
88204	\$ 85.83
88552	\$ 214.57
89248	\$ 121.86
89982	\$ 121.86

Moved: Mrs. Oppen Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

- B10. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve canceling stale dated payroll agency items for 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school year as listed below:

<u>Check No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
6951	\$121.25
EFT	\$ 34.13

Moved: Mrs. Oppen Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

- B11. RESOLVED** that the North Caldwell Board of Education approve the 2021-2022 School Budget as follows:

	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>LOCAL TAX LEVY</u>
General Fund	\$ 14,848,564	\$ 13,559,084
Special Revenue Fund	\$ 226,442	
Debt Service Fund	\$ 563,975	\$ 563,975
Total Budget	\$ 15,638,981	\$ 14,123,059

The school district has proposed programs and services in excess of the Adequacy Budget adopted by the State Board of Education. Information on this budget and the programs and services it provides is available from the district's Board Office.

Moved: Mrs. Oppen Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

B12. RESOLVED that the North Caldwell Board of Education approve the February 2021 Line Item Transfers.

North Caldwell Board of Education						
LINE ITEM TRANSFERS						
Date: February 28, 2021						
To account #	Account Name	Amount	From account #	Account Name	Amount	
11-000-230-895-000-01	OPERATIONAL EXPENSES	1,000.00	11-000-217-320-060-00	EXTRAORDINARY SERV & ABA	(10,000.00)	
11-000-261-420-000-03	MAINT-COPIERS	1,000.00	11-000-223-320-050-00	PROF. DEVELOPMENT GOULD	(8,000.00)	
11-000-261-610-000-01	MAINT SUPPLIES - DIST	25,000.00	11-000-223-320-060-00	PROF. DEVELOPMENT GV	(12,000.00)	
11-190-100-440-000-00	COPIER LEASE	3,000.00	11-000-230-530-000-01	POSTAGE	(1,000.00)	
11-190-100-500-000-00	INST TECH - PURCH SRVCS	12,000.00	11-000-261-420-000-01	MAINT OF BLDG REPAIR SER	(26,000.00)	
11-190-100-610-050-09	TECH SUPPLIES: GOULD	50,000.00	11-000-262-621-060-01	ENERGY-NATURAL GAS-GDV	(7,990.00)	
11-190-100-610-060-09	TECH: SUPPLIES GRANDVIEW	60,000.00	11-000-270-390-000-00	TRANSPORTATION CO-OP FEE	(15,000.00)	
11-190-100-640-050-00	TEXTBOOKS: GOULD	19,000.00	11-000-270-515-000-00	TRANSPORTATION: SPECIAL	(100,000.00)	
11-215-100-101-060-00	PRE-SCH DISABILITY: SAL	1,500.00	11-120-100-101-050-00	TEACHERS SAL GR 4-5 GLD	(40,000.00)	
12-120-100-730-060-09	INST EQUIP GRNDVEW K-3	23,745.00				
12-130-100-730-060-09	INSTR. EQUIP GRADE 6	23,745.00				
	Total Transfers	219,990.00		Total Transfers	(219,990.00)	
						0.00

Moved: Mrs. Oppen Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

B13. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the digital submission of application for the 2020 Safety Grant Program to create independent school networks through the New Jersey Insurance Group (NJSIG) in the amount of \$1,713.00.

Moved: Mrs. Oppen Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

B14. WHEREAS, the North Caldwell Public School District Board of Education ("Board") and the Essex Regional Educational Services Commission ("ERESC") were parties to a transportation contract ("Contract") for the provision of student transportation services to the Board during the 2019-2020 school year; and

WHEREAS, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, on or about March 17, 2020, the Governor declared a state of emergency and required all schools in the State to close; and

WHEREAS, because of the ordered school closures, transportation services were discontinued on or about March 17, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Public Law 2020, Chapter 27, was enacted, which required school districts and their contracted service providers to make reasonable efforts to renegotiate their contracts and required school districts to pay their contractors, so that the contractors may meet their payroll and fixed cost obligations, excluding fuel and tolls; and

WHEREAS, the Board and ERESK have renegotiated the amount owed under their contract for student transportation services provided to the Board by Belair Transport, Inc. and First Care Medical Transportation; and

WHEREAS, under their agreement, the Board will pay a discounted rate of eighty-five percent (85%) of the funds otherwise owed to Belair Transport and First Care Medical Transportation; and

WHEREAS, ERESK has provided Revised Invoice No. 20-7004-8, dated March 15, 2021, along with Transportation Billing Detail 3/16/20-6/30/20, setting forth the amount due to Belair Transport as \$75,670.74, and the amount due to First Care Medical Transport Contract as \$11,092.50.

WHEREAS, Revised Invoice No. 20-7004-8 indicates, erroneously, that the total amount due to ERESK from the Board, inclusive of administrative fees, is \$83,684.74, but the Transportation Billing Detail indicates, correctly, that the total amount due to ERESK from the Board is \$86,763.24 inclusive of administrative fees.

WHEREAS, as required by Public Law 2020, Chapter 27, ERESC will not transmit the funds to Belair Transport or First Care Medical Transport unless and until they provide Statements of Assurance, certifying that the payments received will be used to meet payroll and fixed cost obligations and that the companies did not have business interruption insurance coverage for the period of the school closures.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby approves the payment of \$86,763.24, to ERESC, as set forth in Transportation Billing Detail 3/16/20-6/30/20, appended to Revised Invoice No. 20-7004-8.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board President and the Board Secretary/Business Administrator are hereby authorized to execute any other documents needed to effectuate the terms of this Resolution or the payment.

Moved: Mrs. Opper Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

B15. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the purchase of a 2022 Ford F350 pickup truck with a Fisher 8ft. plow utilizing New Jersey State Contract A88758, T2101 per attached quote.

Moved: Mrs. Opper Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

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
Halik, M.	4/29	NJASBO	\$50.00	
Halik, M.	5/18	NJASBO	\$50.00	
Newman, T.	4/30, 5/1	2021 Alta National Conference	\$152.00	
Jones, R.	4/30, 5/1	2021 Alta National Conference	\$152.00	

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Stroeveer

Yes: 5 No: 0

- P2. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve Child Rearing Leave extension for **Amanda Cosentino** from June 21, 2021 to June 22, 2022.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Stroeveer

Yes: 5 No: 0

- P3. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve Child Rearing Leave extension for **Johanna Reyes** from June 30, 2021 to January 3, 2022.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Stroeveer

Yes: 5 No: 0

- P4. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accept with regret the retirement of **Janet Gregory** effective June 30, 2021.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Stroeveer

Yes: 5 No: 0

- P5. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve **Michael Gesario** for home instruction for up to ten (10) hours per week at a rate of \$50.00 per hour effective April 26, 2021 to June 21, 2021 for **student #8005449**.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Stroeveer

Yes: 5 No: 0

The following resolution was called at approximately 8:42 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 and negotiations. Said matters will be made public upon their disposition.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Malige

PUBLIC SESSION

APRIL 28, 2021

Yes: 5

No: 0

Mrs. Malige left the zoom meeting at 8:42 p.m.

As there was no further business to discuss, the Board adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Halik
Business Administrator / Board Secretary