

SOUTH PLAINFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
125 Jackson Avenue
South Plainfield, NJ 07080
Telephone: 908-754-4620

Committee of the Whole Meeting– Wednesday, December 12, 2018 - 6:30 P.M.
South Plainfield High School
200 Lake Street
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Chapman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. SALUTE TO FLAG

III. ROLL CALL- Mr. H. Ronald Smith

Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Present: Mr. Both, Mrs. Boyle, Mr. Cassio, Mr. Giannakis,
Mr. Pennisi, Mrs. Wolak, Mr. Chapman

Also Present: Dr. Noreen Lishak, Superintendent; Ms. Mary Malyska, Assistant
Superintendent; Mr. H. Ronald Smith, Interim Business
Administrator/Board Secretary; Mr. Marc Zitomer, Legal Council

IV. BOARD PRESIDENT

South Plainfield Public Schools Mission Statement:

Students are the focus of the South Plainfield Public Schools. We will provide a dynamic, rigorous, relevant and technology-enriched curriculum, guided by the New Jersey Student Learning Standards. Our mission is to develop life-long learners who are prepared to succeed in a global and diverse society. We are resolved to educate the whole child, instilling the desire within our students to question and to become divergent thinkers who can achieve their fullest potential.

In accordance with the terms of the Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting was posted in all school buildings, the Administration Building, Borough Clerk's office, Police Headquarters, Public Library, four newspapers, and W.C.T.C. on January 8, 2018.

Please be advised:

- There is no smoking on school grounds - inside or outside - at any time.
- Please silence all electronic devices.
- Pursuant to District Policy #0167, each statement made by a participant shall be limited to three minutes' duration and no participant may speak more than once

on the same topic.

The Board went into a brief executive session at 6:32 p.m. and returned at 6:37 p.m.

V. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Reading of November 6, 2018 Official Election Results

Mr. Smith read the official election results from the November 6, 2018 election.

2. Good News and Progress

Dr. Lishak said that so many wonderful things are happening this month. Holiday concerts are scheduled for this week and next. The Middle School had their concert last night and the South Plainfield High School concert will be held tomorrow night in the auditorium at 6:30 p.m. Dr. Lishak said that she had the opportunity to hear the students this afternoon and the orchestra, chorus and jazz ensemble were outstanding. She said that the students are amazing and if you can make it, you will be thoroughly impressed by all the talents in our district.

The district held their first Parent Palooza last week and it focused on strategies and resources for students' academic success. The workshops were well-received and well-attended. Dr. Lishak said that we received a lot of positive feedback. The second session is being planned for February and that session will focus on the use of social media, and bullying. Dr. Lishak said that we heard our parent suggestions will be offering a variety of workshops at various grade levels. Parent Palooza information will be distributed after winter break.

Dr. Lishak thanked Mr. Encinas and the South Plainfield High School Student Council and Sodexo for donating a beautiful lunch. She also thanked board members, Mr. Cassio, Mr. Giannakis, Mr. Pennisi, and Mrs. Wolak for serving our seniors lunch after they enjoyed a performance of the holiday concert. Dr. Lishak also thanked Mrs. Boyle who provided a lift for one of our South Plainfield Seniors to and from the concert. Dr. Lishak said that the seniors had a wonderful time and they could not say enough about this event.

Next, Dr. Lishak reported that on Monday, December 10th, our High School students attended an assembly on the dangers of the use of opioids. There were a number of speakers including former addicts and health professionals discuss the effects that the use of opioids had on their lives, personally, and the effects the use of the drugs have on overall health. Dr. Lishak said that the district is planning at least two additional presentations before the end of the school year. These assemblies will include classroom visits and small group sessions. In addition, we will be bringing the presentations down to the middle school, beginning in the new year.

The district is also planning a College and Career Day on February 27th. Our juniors and seniors will begin the day with the presentation panel of business members who are residents of South Plainfield who have gained success in their specific areas of business and in their career. The afternoon will feature a college fair in the gymnasium with colleges, trade schools, labor unions and various companies such as New Jersey American Water and PSE&G speaking with our students on college and career opportunities.

Dr. Lishak reported that our elementary school report cards were posted this afternoon. Please log on to our Genesis Parent Portal to review your child's report card.

Next, Dr. Lishak reported that Kennedy school wanted to let us know that Murphy the Therapy Dog made his 100th visit to the school last week. Murphy is a trained therapy dog who sits next to students, easing their anxiety and allowing the students to focus on their reading skills so here's to Murphy's next 100 visits.

Dr. Lishak announced that Franklin School is sponsoring a dine-out night for Amanda. Amanda is one of our Kindergarten students from Franklin who had open heart surgery recently and has since experienced some complications. The dine-out will be held at Luigi's on December 20th. Please visit the Franklin School website as well as our district community board for details.

Roosevelt School student council conducted a clothing drive to raise money for hurricane relief. The objectives were explained to the student body and the school goal was to collect 150 bags of clothing. Thanks to the student council and their advisors, they collected 183 bags of clothing and that raised almost \$500.00 for the relief of recent hurricanes in the US. Thank you to our Roosevelt students.

South Plainfield Middle School would like to let us know that they will be holding a character door decorating contest for the month of December and January. Each door will be adorned with a word that describes good character. We can look forward to some great pictures on the website of the decorated doors.

South Plainfield High School's Winter Wonderland Tiger 24 will be held at South Plainfield High School this Saturday from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. for our elementary students with winter games and crafts, and pictures with Frozen characters. Entrance is \$2.00 per adult and students under 10 are free. The event will continue from 7:00 – 10:00 p.m. with a volleyball tournament for students in grade 7-12. The cost is \$5.00 per person or \$30.00 per team and \$2.00 general admission.

Dr. Lishak reminded everyone that next week in the High School is spirit week so get your sweaters ready. Friday, December 15th is the home opener for the South Plainfield boys' basketball team at 7:00 p.m. right here at the high school and they are against Spotswood.

Next, Dr. Lishak announced that next week's board meeting will begin at 6:15 p.m. The reason that we are doing that is so we can enjoy the talents of our South Plainfield music ensemble. She said that our students are so talented that we wanted to make sure to showcase as many of the students as possible. Please come out at 6:15 p.m. and enjoy the show.

VI. AGENDA ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS

Mr. Pennisi said that he would like to add a resolution to add Policy 5460 – High School Graduation, which will add the State Seal of Bi-literacy. He would also like to add Policy 8550 – Unpaid Meal Charges and Outstanding Balances, which is recommending to add some verbiage as far as adding a cutoff point of two weeks in arrears for alternative meals in grades K-12 and no meals after three weeks in grades 5-12. This will be according to statutes as far as what we can do and when we have to do it. This will be added for a first reading this evening.

Mr. Chapman asked for a motion to add the resolution. The motion to add was as follows:

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis SECOND: Mr. Both VOTE: 7-0

1. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only

VII. CURRICULUM/STUDENT ACTIVITIES

DISCUSSION

VIII. FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

1. Approval of Resolution Regarding the Opposition of the M & M Realty Partners of South Plainfield LLC Development Application

WHEREAS, the South Plainfield Board of Education has been requested to provide its position on the M&M Realty Partners at South Plainfield LLC development application that is currently before the South Plainfield planning board, and;

WHEREAS, in order to properly address the planning board's concerns the Board of Education retained Haber Associates to prepare a demographic study of the proposed development and currently approved projects which are not yet built and their potential impact on South Plainfield Public Schools, and;

WHEREAS, the Haber Demographic Study indicated that the most significant impact will be on Roosevelt Elementary which could increase in enrollment by as many as 154 students. This may result in the re-distribution of students to other elementary schools depending upon facility needs (classroom availability and program locations).

Redistricting students to Riley, Kennedy and Franklin Schools will cause the class sizes to increase in those schools, and;

WHEREAS, the addition of students will cause impacts to district resources such as school busses, bus drivers, instructional and non-instructional personnel, child study team and guidance counselors. One hundred and fifty-four students will require three additional school busses at a cost of \$325,000 and annual operational costs for drivers, aides, etc. of \$75,000, and;

WHEREAS, additional instructional and non-instructional personnel will need to be hired as well as support personnel which could cost \$250,000 annually.

WHEREAS, the state does not fully fund the district special education cost resulting in a significant budgetary impact.

WHEREAS, Special Education student enrollment historically runs at an average of 15% of the general population; therefore, the prediction based on 23 of the 154 students will require special education instruction and support services. Based on historical data, at least one of those special education students will require an out-of-district placement at an average cost of \$125,000 annually.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the South Plainfield Board of Education has identified several capital and ongoing costs associated with the projected increased student population, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the South Plainfield Board of Education opposes the M&M Realty Partners at South Plainfield LLC development application unless and until M&M Realty Partners at South Plainfield LLC commits to making a material and long-term financial investment in the South Plainfield Public Schools to offset the negative fiscal, capital and personnel impact its development project will have on the schools as set for above.

DISCUSSION

Mrs. Boyle said that this resolution has an extremely important impact on the school district. The Planning Board meeting that was held last night was about the resolution that the Planning Board had requested to be incorporated into the plan by M&M Realty, which included the community be gated and the road entering Edison be closed to through traffic from Edison. The report was given by M&M's hired engineer on traffic safety. There were multiple questions from the Planning Board with regards to additional traffic and the issues that will be created.

Mrs. Boyle said that 8 ½ months ago the Mayor and Council held a Town Hall meeting which included a powerpoint that was given with testimony from the Borough Planner and the Master of the State Court. This meeting can be viewed on the Borough website and The Observer website. Mrs. Boyle reported that Mayor Anesh and Councilman

Derryck White made it very clear last night that there are reports that will be forthcoming in January from the Police, Fire, Rescue, and the Board of Education will be heard. She said that accepted recommendations will be given through those reports.

MOTION: Mr. Pennisi

SECOND: Mr. Both

VOTE: 7-0

IX. PERSONNEL

Motion by Member Mr. Giannakis, seconded by Member Mr. Both, to accept the recommendation of the superintendent and adopt the following:

RESOLVED, that the South Plainfield Board of Education approve the following:

(NOTE: Approval of this resolution authorizes the superintendent to submit to the county superintendent applications for emergent hiring and the applicant's attestation and proof that he/she has not been convicted of any disqualifying crime pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et. seq., N.J.S.A. 18A:39-17 et. seq., or N.J.S.A. 18A:6-4.13 et. seq. This includes background checks and fingerprinting for those employees listed below: (All appointments are contingent upon receipt of proper teaching certification **and the satisfaction of all requirements set forth in P.L. 2018, c.5**. All salary placements are pending receipt of college transcripts verifying degree status and letter stating years of service in other districts, *denotes mentoring required.)

IX.A Resignations, Retirements, Terminations

RESOLVED, that the South Plainfield Board of Education approve the following:

Code	Name	Action	Position	Location	Date Eff.	Discussion
1.	Smith, H. Ronald	Resign	Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary	District	02/01/19 or sooner	
2.	Forsyth (Pietrucha), Jamie	Resign	Pre School Disabled Teacher	Roosevelt School	01/27/19 or sooner	
3.	Mazellan, MaryAnn	Resign	Duty Aide	Roosevelt School	01/01/19	
4.	Milano, Karen	Retire	Social Worker	District	01/01/19	

IX.B Leaves of Absence

Code	Name	Reason	Position	Loc.	Paid FMLA Start Date	Paid Leave (Not FMLA)	Unpaid FMLA Start Date	Unpaid NJFL A Start Date	Unpaid Leave without Benefits	Return Date	Discussion
1	Employee ID#: 5101	Approve	Bus Aide	Transportation		9/20/2018	11/12/18			11/26/18	Revised return to work date
2.	Employee ID#: 5194	Approve	OT	Special Services			01/07/19			04/03/18	
3.	Employee ID#: 1440	Approve	Social Worker	Special Services		11/05/18	12/10/18			Retiring 01/01/19	

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IX.C Appointments, Transfers

Code	Name	Action	Position	Deg /Step	Salary/ Hrly. Rate	Location	Date Effective	Date Term.	Discussion
1.	Yazici, Murat	Approve	Assistant Business Administrator/ Assistant Board Secretary	N/A	\$82,500 (pro-rated)	District	01/14/19	06/30/19	Replacing S. Fried Acct#: 11-000-251-100-12
2.	Fierra, Sam	Approve	Director of Guidance	N/A	\$124,734	High School	07/01/18	06/30/19	Advance on Salary Guide as per SPPPU-Increase in degree credit to MA+60 at \$1,525 Acct#:11-000-240-103-01
3.	Diaz, Rosa	Rescind	Bus Driver	Step 1 5.5 hrs. per day	\$24,354 (pro-rated)	Transportation	TBD	06/30/19	Replacing T. Motley Acct#: 11-000-270-160-16
4.	Ali, Kenya	Approve	Bus Driver	Step 1 6 hrs. per day	\$26,568 (pro-rated)	Transportation	12/13/18	06/30/19	Replacing M. Mogil Acct#: 11-000-270-160-16
5.	Ufondu, Leslie	Approve	Paraprofessional	Step 1	\$13,566 (pro-rated)	Riley School	12/13/18	06/30/19	19.5 hrs. per week Acct#: 11-213-100-106-18
6.	Schwiederek, Emily	Approve	Paraprofessional	Step 1	\$13,566 (pro-rated)	Kennedy School	12/13/18	06/30/19	19.5 hrs. per week Acct#: 11-213-100-106-18
7.	Hunterton, Samantha	Approve	Paraprofessional	Step 1	\$20,868 (pro-rated)	Roosevelt School	TBD	06/30/19	Pending completion of successful criminal history background check Acct#: 11-213-100-106-18
8.	Moretti, Teresa	Approve	Paraprofessional	Step 1	\$13,566 (pro-rated)	Floating District Position	TBD	06/30/19	Pending completion of successful criminal history background check 19.5 hrs. per week Acct#: 11-213-100-106-18
9.	Plate-Hosein, Nicole	Approve	Paraprofessional	Step 1	\$13,566 (pro-rated)	Floating District Position	12/13/18	06/30/19	19.5 hrs. per week Acct#: 11-213-100-106-18
10.	Fathelbab, Rabab	Approve	Paraprofessional	Step 1	\$13,566 (pro-rated)	Riley School	12/13/18	06/30/19	19.5 hrs. per week Acct#: 11-213-100-106-18
11.	Dabrio, Larry	Approve	Bus Driver	Step 2 6.5 hrs. per day	\$30,940 (pro-rated)	Transportation	11/05/18	06/30/19	Increase in hours by .25 for the remaining school year Acct#: 11-000-270-161-16
12.	Ayala, Jose	Approve	Bus Driver	Step 1 6.5 hrs. per day	\$28,782 (pro-rated)	Transportation	11/05/18	06/30/19	Increase in hours by .50 for the remaining school year Acct#: 11-000-270-161-16
13.	Santacruz, Stella	Approve	Bus Driver	Step 1 6.25 hrs. per day	\$27,675 (pro-rated)	Transportation	11/05/18	06/30/19	Increase in hours by .25 for the remaining school year Acct#: 11-000-270-161-16
14.	Mowery, Charlotte	Approve	Bus Aide	Step 10 4.75 hrs. per day	\$18,736 (pro-rated)	Transportation	11/05/18	06/30/19	Increase in hours by .75 for the remaining school year Acct#: 11-000-270-107-06
15.	Loiacono, Sue	Approve	Bus Aide	Step 10 6 hrs. per day	\$24,567 (pro-rated)	Transportation	11/05/18	06/30/19	Increase in hours by .50 for the remaining school year Acct#: 11-000-270-107-06
16.	Loiacono, Melissa	Approve	Bus Aide	Step 6 6 hrs. per day	\$20,627 (pro-rated)	Transportation	11/26/18	06/30/19	Increase in hours by .50 for the remaining school year Acct#: 11-000-270-107-06
17.	Darby, Suzanne	Approve	Floating Bus Aide	Step 1	\$16.93 per hr.	Transportation	TBD	06/30/19	Pending completion of successful criminal history background check 19.5 hrs. per week Acct#: 11-000-270-107-06
18.	Lensen, Jennifer	Approve	Floating Bus Aide	Step 10	\$20.87 per hr.	Transportation	12/13/18	06/30/19	Acct#: 11-000-270-107-06
19.	Pettaway, Tonette	Approve	Floating Bus Aide	Step 1	\$16.93 per hr.	Transportation	12/13/18	06/30/19	19.5 hrs. per week Acct#: 11-000-270-107-06
20.	Plancher, Marissa	Approve	Floating Bus Aide	Step 10	\$20.87 per hr.	Transportation	12/13/18	06/30/19	Acct#: 11-000-270-107-06

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21.	Stringer, Judith	Approve	Substitute Nurse	N/A	\$225 per day	District	12/13/18	06/30/19	Acct#: 11-000-213-104-00
22.	Kinsey, Nafis	Approve	Musical Choreographer	Step 1	\$964.00	High School	TBD	06/30/19	Pending completion of successful criminal history background check Acct#: 11-401-100-100-00
21.	Johnson, Erinn	Approve	Student Teaching	N/A	N/A	High School	01/12/19	05/10/19	Cooperating Teacher H. Klett Acct#: N/A

IX.D. Adjustments, Stipends, Degree Changes

Code	Name	Action	Position	Degree/Step/ No. of Hrs.	Salary/ Stipend	Location	Date Effective	Date Term.	Discussion
1.	Casano, Andrew	Approve	8 th Grade Advisor	Step 1	\$1621.00	Middle School	12/13/18	06/30/19	Acct#: 11-401-100-100-00
2.	Vroom, Roger	Rescind	8 th Grade Advisor	Step 1	\$1621.00	Middle School	09/01/19	12/12/18	Acct#: 11-401-100-100-00
3.	Richkus, Kelly	Rescind	8 th Grade Advisor	Step 1	\$1621.00	Middle School	09/01/18	12/12/18	Acct#: 11-401-100-100-00
4.	Baskiewicz, Kimberly	Approve	Volunteer Winter Cheer	N/A	N/A	High School	TBD	03/22/19	Pending completion of successful criminal history background check N/A

IX.E. Approval of Accounts Payable/Payroll Clerk Job Description

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education approve the Accounts Payable/Payroll Clerk job description, as per TAB IX.E.

IX.F. Approve the Direction of a Medical Examination to Determine Fitness for Work for Employee #4015

Whereas, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:16-2 and N.J.A.C. 6A:32-6.3(b), the Board may require an employee to undergo a medical examination when the employee shows evidence of deviation from normal physical or mental health;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that Employee I.D. # 4015, is hereby directed to immediately undergo a comprehensive medical examination to determine her fitness to work, at Board expense, by a physician designated by the Superintendent or her designee; and

Be it finally resolved, that the Superintendent or her designee shall provide the employee with written notification as to the reason for said examination, pursuant to law.

DISCUSSION:

Mrs. Boyle said that she thought they were going to discuss personnel in executive session because has some questions. Dr. Lishak asked which area and Mrs. Boyle responded that her questions are under, Leaves of Absence. Mr. Zitomer said that we can move everything else except for Section B.

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education approve the foregoing resolutions.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis

SECOND: Mr. Both

VOTE: 7-0

X. FINANCE

1. Approval of Home/Bedside Instruction Contracts for both General and Special Education Students for the 2018-2019 School Year

- a. Approve the tuition agreement for home instruction with Union County Educational Services Commission for one general education student for the 2018-2019 school year, effective November 16, 2018. Academic instruction is provided on site at Trinitas Regional Medical Center. Billing rate will be \$67.00 per hour for the Regular Behavioral Unit. Student discharged December 4, 2018. State ID No.: 4459126131.
- b. Approve the bedside instruction contract with Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care for one general education student for the 2018-2019 school year, effective November 29, 2018. Rate is \$41.00 per hour. Student discharged. State ID No.: 6491214077.

Approve the bedside instruction contract with Silvergate Prep for one general education student for the 2018-2019 school year, effective December 10, 2018. Rate is \$41.00 per hour. State ID No.: 6491214077.

- c. Approve the bedside instruction contract with Professional Education Services, Inc. for one general education student for the 2018-2019 school year, effective December 3, 2018. Rate is \$41.00 per hour. State ID No.: 3132670850.

2. Approval for Related Services Providers – 2018/2019

Approve the following related services appointment for special education students for the 2018/2019 school year:

Psychiatric Evaluations

- a. Dr. Robert C. Stucky, MD
Child and Adult Psychiatrist
4 Hunters Trail, P.O. Box 4525, Warren, NJ 07059
December 13, 2018 through June 30, 2019
\$400.00 per evaluation
\$150.00 No-show fee (including an abrupt, same day cancellation)

Educational Audiologists

- a. H.A. Wolfinger and Associates, LLC
Heidi Wolfinger, M.Ed., CCC-A/SLP, E.E.D.
12 Chatham Court, Robbinsville, NJ 08691
December 13, 2018 through June 30, 2019

\$150.00 per hour, billed in 15-minute increments

OT, PT and Speech Services

- a. United Therapy Solutions
551 Park Avenue, Suite 1
Scotch Plains, NJ 07076
December 13, 2018 – June 30, 2019

Fee Schedule:

	Occupational Therapy	Physical Therapy	Speech Therapy CCC	Speech Therapy CFY	COTA
Full Time (30+ hours per week)	\$80/hr.	\$88/hr.	\$85/hr.	\$70/hr.	\$70/hr.
Part Time (less than 30 hours per week)	\$82.50/hr.	\$82.50/hr.	\$87.50/hr.	\$72.50/hr.	\$72.50/hr.
Urgent Placement (less than 3 weeks' notice)	\$95/hr.	\$95/hr.	\$100/hr.	\$85/hr.	\$85/hr.
Temporary Placement Full Time (less than 6 months)	\$90/hr.	\$90/hr.	\$95/hr.	\$80/hr.	\$80/hr.
Temporary Placement Part Time (less than 6 months)	\$92/hr.	\$92/hr.	\$97/hr.	\$82/hr.	\$82/hr.
Full Time + Summer	\$79/hr.	\$79/hr.	\$84/hr.	\$69/hr.	\$69/hr.
Part Time + Summer	\$81.50/hr.	\$81.50/hr.	\$86/50/hr.	\$71.50/hr.	\$71.50/hr.
Out-of-District (Per Session)	\$65/30 min.	\$65/30 min.	\$75/30 min.
Home Care (Per Session)	\$95/30 min.	\$95/30 min.	\$105/30 min.
Evaluations (in-district)	\$265	\$265	\$275	\$275
Evaluations (out-of-district)	\$365	\$365	\$375	\$375

3. Approval of Withdrawals, Placements, and Tuition Adjustments of Special Education Students for the 2018-2019 School Year

Approve the withdrawals/placements/tuition changes for the following special education students for the 2018-2019 school year:

- a. Placement of one special education at Collier High School for the 2018-2019 school year. Start date was November 26, 2018. Tuition cost will be \$59,040.00 (pro-rated to \$41,656.00/\$328.00 per diem). State ID No.: 9022727293.

4. Approval of Professional Development Expenditures

Approve the following expenditures (registration, mileage, and conference fees),

substitutes, and trips, which are compliant with State payment guidelines, employee job responsibilities and critical to the needs of the school district.

	<u>Name of Workshop</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Person Attending</u>
1.	NJ TechSpo 2019	1/31- 2/1/19	\$750.00 Registration, Hotel, Mileage, Parking 11-000-223-580-11	Michael Estrada

DISCUSSION

Mrs. Boyle said that she thought that the bid was on here. Dr. Lishak said that Mr. Damato and Mr. Wiggins will be meeting with the bidders on Monday at 11:00 a.m. to clarify a couple of items. It will appear on next week's agenda and it will still fall within the timeline. Mrs. Boyle said that she has questions and had thought it was going to be on tonight's agenda.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis

SECOND: Mr. Both

VOTE: 7-0

POLICY

A. Approval of First Reading of Bylaws/Policies/Regulations

Approve the first reading of the following Bylaws/Policies/Exhibits :

1. Policy 5460 – High School Graduation -Tab XA.1 – Revised
2. Policy 8550 - Unpaid Meal Charge/Outstanding Food Service Charges – Tab XA.2 - Revised

DISCUSSION:

Mrs. Boyle asked, in regards to the meal charges, what alternative meal will be given in place of the regular meal. Dr. Lishak said that they will meet with their food service provider but the general option is something like a cheese sandwich or a peanut butter and jelly option. Mrs. Boyle said that after two weeks in arears they will be given no food. Dr. Lishak said that the way it is presented, as per regulation, after ten days in arears they will receive an alternative lunch offering. That is for all grades, K-12. After 20 days they will receive a second notice and will still be receiving an alternative meal. After 27 days, which is seven days after their second notice, it is proposed in the policy that students in grades 5-12 will not receive any lunch on credit. They would only be able to receive lunch if they purchase it with cash. It will no longer be allowed on credit.

Mrs. Boyle said that in the policy it says after how long a period of time will DCCP be called. That could happen after not responding for the first time. Dr. Lishak said that we would not. She said that we have it in our policy that we would first contact the principal and then principal will then have a conversation with the families but that this point they would have already received multiple notices that their child's account is in the arears.

Mrs. Boyle said that she knows that we have to be protective of the district also because of the amount that is owed now and she would never want to hurt the children so she said that she would hope that after multiple times of contacting the parents than that would be the last resort.

Mrs. Wolak said that she doesn't agree with the policy because there is no reason to punish the children. If the parents are absent and they are not paying, it is not the child who has a problem. She said that if you are going to say after twenty-seven days that if the parent hasn't paid us for their lunches we are going to have to tell them that they have to bring money to buy lunch or you aren't going to have any. Mrs. Wolak said that if they didn't give them money in the first place, why are they going to give them any money then. So now they are going to sit there and not have any lunch. And if we are saying this is a DYFS issue that the parents are being negligent then she said that she feels we are being negligent by not providing them with lunch so she disagrees with this policy.

Mr. Pennisi said that we have been struggling with this for the past year. This has come up many time in Policy, we have changed it and we tried to do everything we can. He said that the bottom line is that there are a lot of people struggling out there who are buying and paying for their kids lunch. We are either going to be a free lunch for everyone district or we have to take care of this. He said that he knows what Mrs. Wolak is saying and he understands it and if he could come up with something else he would. He said that we have been contacting, we've tried everything. Mr. Pennisi said that her understands but you have to draw the line somewhere.

Mrs. Wolak asked why we can't send them to collection or put their names in the newspaper such as they do with people who are delinquent with their taxes. The parents will be embarrassed and not the child.

Mr. Giannakis apologized for being on the phone as he had to handle a crisis. He said that we have been struggling with this for multiple years. He said that the arears is quite high at \$45,000. He asked Mr. Smith if we have to make this account whole at the end of the year and Mr. Smith said that is correct. Mr. Giannakis said that means we have to find \$45,000.00 at the end of the year to put into that account to push it into the black. He said that one of the key components that his helping him say okay to this policy is that we are not cutting kids off at the elementary level and he said that is important to him. He said that he doesn't think that we should cut them off at any level but we are not getting anywhere. He also said that we are going to be say to a parent that we are going to be unreasonable. He said that he saying that I they tell us that they will pay \$5.00 per week then we will open the account back up.

Mrs. Wolak said that if a parent is not listening to you now and then are still not going to listen to you then why are we going to punish the kids.

Mr. Giannakis said that the sad thing is that Mrs. Wolak is right, we are going to be punishing the kids. He said that the flip side to that is that a child will go home and start talking to his parents and tell them he can't get lunch. Maybe that is the point that will be more embarrassing and more concerning for the parents than anything else.

Mr. Giannakis said that he doesn't know if we can actually list these names in the paper but he said that he would be right there with Mrs. Wolak and he would 100 percent agree with that. He said to Mrs. Wolak that if she can come up with a better way, he is listening. We have tried for two years.

Dr. Lishak said that we had principals contact parents. We had Guidance contact parents. We did a push for free and reduced lunch applications. We've reached out to them, we've called, we've asked if there is anything we can do, is there something going on in your home. Dr. Lishak said that some parents did call the business office and make some type of payment arrangements. She said that for the most part, most parents made none.

Mrs. Wolak said that she still doesn't agree. She said that she thinks the kids are going to walk up on line and get a cheese sandwich and they will be the ones that are embarrassed because their parents or guardian did not pay and it is their responsibility.

Mr. Giannakis said that he agrees. Mrs. Boyle said that she agrees also. She said that two year ago there was a policy proposed and it was to work on a payment plan with the parents. It was actually something that was given to the parents with an option for a payment plan because she said that she cannot agree to call DYFS because a parent isn't paying their bill. That is hurting the kids.

Dr. Lishak said that the policy that exists now, whether you make the change or not, our current policy says that we reach out to Child Protective Services. Mrs. Boyle said that she knows that. Dr. Lishak said that the issue is that the notifications that the parents receive does specifically say to call the Business Office to work out payment arrangements. Parents chose not to respond to the Business Office, they would tell the school that they would call the Business Office but never did.

Mrs. Boyle said that she understands. She asked what is wrong with sending them to collections or a different alternative. Dr. Lishak said that is a board decision. She said that there is always that option.

Mr. Giannakis said that sadly we are not alone in this. Most school districts are dealing with this very similar situation. When you call the State and ask for guidance, they refer you to what their regulation is and that is to cut kids off. It's not an easy thing to do. Mr. Giannakis said that he knows that Mr. Cassio, a few weeks ago or maybe a few months ago, sending them off to collections and that is not a bad idea but at what threshold would do that because there is a cost to doing that as well. So if we are going to do that, we are going to end up with 50-65% so if you are looking at a \$45,000.00 bill, we are going to lose \$20,000.00 right away. He said that we still need to keep the account in the black at the end of the year and in a school district where our budget is tight, where are going to get that kind of money. He said that is a position and he

asked if we are going to cut somebody. He said that he gets it and he understands that parents are not paying these bills and allowing them to get this far. He said that people struggle and he gets that. Mr. Giannakis added that it's not just lunch, some kid are getting both breakfast and lunch and at the end of the day it adds up. He said that if parents would make an effort to call and make arrangements, we would be willing to listen. Mr. Giannakis said that there are parents who ignore.

Mrs. Wolak said that at this point, no matter what, we are still going to give the kids food. What if the parent says that he is going to pay \$5.00 a week for the rest of the year but he is still not going to pay all the money that he owes.

Mr. Cassio asked at what time are we going to stop the bleeding. He said that is where we struggle with this because we talked about this last year where we implemented a policy where we would be nice and we would call them, the principal would call them, we would send a certified letter, we would threaten to contact DYFS. Mr. Cassio said that we tried that and we are still \$45,000.00 in the hole. Mr. Cassio said, "Shame on the parents for putting us in this position." Mr. Cassio said that he asked his wife, who works in Rahway, to get their policy. He said that their policy is that they go to cheese sandwiches when they are \$10.00 in arrears. Mr. Cassio said that they discussed it in our policy meeting and they said that they can do \$10.00 so they agreed on the day limits. He said that they tried to make it lenient. Mr. Cassio shamed the parents for putting the Board in this position. Mr. Cassio asked what is so hard about sending the child to school with a lunch, a peanut butter and jelly sandwich. He asked why do they have to keep coming to school and buying hot lunch or hot breakfast. Mr. Cassio said, at what point do what say what is fair to the rest of the parents that are giving their kids money and that are replenishing their account. He said that it is not fair to the rest of the parents that do it the right way.

Mrs. Wolak said that she agrees with Mr. Cassio but said that if you didn't get the money so far then she doesn't think you will get it unless you put them in collections because then people will care because their credit is affected by that.

Mr. Giannakis said he agrees with Mr. Cassio's point about when are we going to stop the bleeding. If parents are going to pay back a dollar a day, it is a start in the right direction. Mrs. Wolak asked if we can put that in the policy. Mr. Giannakis said that we could absolutely negotiate that. He said that if a parent is willing to work with us then we will work with them. Mr. Giannakis said that they have to make that step to be willing to work with us. Mr. Giannakis said that this is a long time coming because we have tried every avenue we can think of to prevent getting to this point but after a while you have to think about being fiscally responsible, too. Mr. Giannakis told Mrs. Wolak that he understand where she is coming from and there is nothing more heartbreaking. He said that doesn't like the way that he entire process works for this but that is what the State is guiding us with as well.

Mr. Cassio said that another thing that Mr. Chapman mentioned was that on MyMealtime we would set it up like an easy pass where you would have a budget put in and when it hits a certain threshold there would be an automatic replenishment so these people would not be in arrears. He said that here are people that are thousands of dollars in the whole and they have no intention of

getting out of that whole and they keep adding on, at what point do we stop them. Mr. Cassio said that we struggle with this.

Mrs. Wolak said that she doesn't see how people are going to pay us back.

Mr. Chapman said that in the three years he has been on the board, this is the hardest decision. He said that this was discussed in Policy for two years now and the issue is that Mrs. Wolak is correct but if you don't cut it off at some point it doesn't stop. He said that even if you send them to collections, until that whole process kicks in, it will take time. He also said that we are never going to get that \$45,000.00 back and then went on to say at some point we are never getting \$50,000.00, then \$60,000.00. He said that if we let it continue at the clip it is going, which he believes is about \$5,000.00 per month. Mr. Chapman said that if that run rate holds up that will take us to a negative \$80,000.00 by the end of the year.

Mrs. Wolak asked, again, why we don't send them to collections and try and actually get the money back from the people who owe us the money. Mr. Chapman said that he doesn't disagree but do we still let them continue to charge their food because if we are unsuccessful at collection, then you continue to let them go and go. At some point, unfortunately, we have to say that's it. We have to draw the line somewhere. Mr. Chapman also said that under no circumstances will an elementary student be cut off from lunch. He said that nobody on the Policy Committee wanted that. He said that at some point we have to cut them off, it's a difficult thing.

Mrs. Boyle said that this is the only meal for some kids. She said that we don't know what goes on in anybody's house and if we can change some of the alternatives in the policy then she would support it. She said that as it is now with some of these options she cannot support it.

Mr. Giannakis asked Mrs. Boyle what she means by changing some of the options. Mrs. Boyle said the option about collections, about money being owed that you are going to cut kids off. These are kids so she doesn't care what grade they are in. She would like for them to continue receiving a cheese sandwich. She said that she would go home and complain every day and ask they she is getting a cheese sandwich. She said that she can't support cutting off a 5-12th grader.

Mr. Chapman asked Mrs. Wolak if there is any point or any age where you think it is appropriate. They did not agree that any level was appropriate.

Mrs. Wolak said that she doesn't. She said her son is in 12th grade but she said that she pays her bill because she cares but some of these kids don't care. Mrs. Wolak said that she did have her son's lunch taken away and she was only a couple of dollars in arrears. The lunch was thrown in the garbage. The board asked when that happened and she said it was when he was a Freshman

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education approve the foregoing resolutions.

The following vote is for Policy A.1.:

MOTION: Mr. Pennisi SECOND: Mr. Both VOTE: 7-0

The following vote is for Policy A.2.:

MOTION: Mr. Pennisi SECOND: Mr. Both VOTE: 5-2
Mrs. Boyle and Mrs. Wolak voted no.

XI. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

DISCUSSION

XII. PRESENTATION OF COMMITTEE REPORTS

Buildings & Grounds

Mr. Giannakis said that they did not meet this month.

Curriculum

Mr. Pennisi reported that they met on December 5th. In attendance was himself, Ms. Malyska, Mr. Cassio, Mrs. Wolak and Mr. Both. Mr. Pennisi reported that they discussed new courses and programs for the 2019-20 school year. These courses include AP Capstone and SUNY Capstone, Bio Informatics and Molecular Biology. He said that students can pick up either eight AB credits or 12 SUNY credits. In addition, there will be two half year courses: Race, Gender, Culture; and History of Film.

Mr. Pennisi reported that the new offerings in the Middle school will be Jazz Band and Chamber Orchestra, a Cyber Security course, Principles of Engineering with AM Engineering Sunsetting, Introduction to Animation, Broadcasting II, Summer Music and Enrichment which will be a three-year course with a maximum of 30 in attendance. That will be a tuition course that will cost \$150.00. There will also be a summer broadcasting class, Integrated Physics and Chemistry as well as a Humanities in 9th grade.

The committee also discussed the College and Career day scheduled for February 27th. There will be an AM and PM session which will include a panel discussion. The Career Day is coordinated with the South Plainfield Business Association. The panel will be composed of South Plainfield residents and South Plainfield businesses only. The committee recommended that the district be part of the selection process so we can let them know what we are looking for. The PM Session will be held in the gym. Tables will be set up for careers and students can move about the gym to whatever presentation they are interested in. Those careers will mainly focus on the trades. We also had a discussion to expand to the lower grades in the future.

Mr. Pennisi reported that the committee discussed HIBster which is an online reporting and investigation tool for HIB. It also has and INRS component.

The committee discussed the focus of the District Evaluation and Advisory Committee. The Curriculum committee also asked to see if this committee still has member requirements of the State because it was initiated when TEACH came about so we will be told by the next meeting if this is necessary.

The new committee will meet in January and plans to look at sample report cards and will try to narrow it down to three or four before it goes on to the other committee.

There is a partnership with Wells Spring Center for Prevention. They are presenting drug prevention programs to the schools. Mr. Pennisi thanked Mr. Cassio for bring that to the last one, the information, and Ms. Malyska was able to contact them and we partnered with them.

Also, there is going to be a Junior ROTC survey going out to see the interest from the students for that program.

Finance

Mr. Chapman said that he has two reports since he was not at last month's meeting.

Mr. Chapman reported that the finance committee met on November 12th. In attendance were himself, Mr. Cassio, Mr. Giannakis, Mrs. Wolak, Mr. Smith and Dr. Lishak. He reported that they met with representatives from Aflac to discuss offering their disability and cancer policies to the teachers and administration. The committee recommends that we allow this to take place.

Mr. Chapman reported that the committee also discussed and reviewed the bills list and the attorneys bill. He said that they also discussed the potential cost exposure to the district as a result of the lawsuit filed by Mr. and Mrs. Boyle against five current Board of Education and one former member. The projected cost to the district is estimated to be between \$15,000-20,000 and will have a negative impact on next year's budget.

Another meeting was held this past Monday on December 10th. In attendance were himself, Mr. Cassio, Mr. Seesselberg, Mr. Giannakis, Dr. Lishak and Mr. Smith. Mr. Chapman reported that the committee reviewed the attorneys bill and bills list. He reported that they also discussed that the old copier company agreed with Mr. Smith's finding that they had overcharged us on copies so we had a \$28,000 credit that Mr. Smith rectified with them by holding those funds from their final payment.

The committee discussed that the district is currently withholding money from Kappa Construction because of outstanding punch list items. There are many items in the Middle School that are yet to be completed.

Mr. Chapman said that the committee also discussed issues that we are having with getting qualified candidates in for the Business Administrator's position as well as current salaries.

Mrs. Boyle asked Dr. Lishak if they met with Kappa. Dr. Lishak said that their attorney sent the district a letter saying that they were not willing to meet with us. That was supposed to be this past Tuesday. Our attorney, Mr. Roselle, sent a letter back stating that we are again requesting to meet with Kappa and we are waiting for a response. Mrs. Boyle asked if their payment is being withheld and Dr. Lishak confirmed that payment has not been released.

Policy

Mr. Pennisi reported that the committee met on the 28th. The only other thing that was discussed in addition to the two policies that were added this evening was Policy 9180 – School Volunteers. The current policy states that the Board reimburse volunteers who need to go through the criminal history check. There were no changes made to the policy but we did ask to have alternative checks done to try to cut the cost down. Right now it is \$30.00 for the fingerprinting that we currently do.

Mrs. Boyle asked, when he mentioned volunteers, if he means the volunteers that come in to help to work on teams. Mr. Pennisi said that right now the policy says anybody that comes in, whether it is a homeroom mother, or people on trips or anybody who is in the building with the kids would have to get a criminal background check. We are supposed to reimburse people who go through the process. We are looking to see if there are other ways to cut the cost on that and get the same thing done.

Mrs. Wolak asked why we have to reimburse people for having a criminal background check. Mr. Zitomer said that we don't have to but that's a policy that the Board has adopted. The feeling is that these are volunteers. They are not getting paid so why would they have to front the cost of those checks which could run upwards of \$100.00.

Dr. Lishak said that the cost for the volunteers if we do the standard is \$30.00 per person. She said that Mr. Chapman asked her to find out if the company would come in so we wouldn't have to put the volunteers out. She said that they are willing to come in but we would have to guarantee that at that one time we would have 50-75 volunteers come in otherwise we would have to pay and we also have to pay another service fee for them to come out and that is somewhere between \$300.00-400.00.

Mrs. Wolak asked if we are not allowing anyone in the buildings that haven't gone through this check. Dr. Lishak said that we have always fingerprinted our sports volunteers. We are just now looking at this policy. We do have volunteers in our schools that do not currently have a background check but we do not allow any of our volunteers to be alone in the classroom. They are always supervised by an administrator or teacher.

Mrs. Boyle said that when we do Read Across America and volunteers come in to read for a one-day event like that then you don't have to have a background check. It is when you are continuously with the students. Also, the volunteers for the sports teams are never supposed to be left alone with the teams that they volunteer for.

Dr. Lishak said that they discussed the presenter volunteers, specifically something like Read across America. Dr. Lishak said that we wouldn't consider those something that needs a background check. They come in, the read to a large population of students, they are in the classroom while someone is there. They are there for one time and then they are out.

Mrs. Boyle said, okay, because in the past we have never asked for a one-time event. Dr. Lishak said that we are referring to visitors like that as presenters.

Mr. Chapman said, with the fingerprint option, if we do go into the direction, he said he likes that option because you enter them into the database and it doesn't have to continue to get redone, whereas, if you do just a basic background check that would have to continue to get done. If you do the fingerprint, you are in the State Police system so if you pop up for anything they notify you that you have a volunteer on your roster who was arrested or something of that nature. That is the pro to doing the fingerprinting.

Mr. Giannakis told Mr. Chapman that he is correct, to a degree. For instance, if you have your fingerprints done here and then you take a job somewhere else, you have to move it, you still have to pay an administrative fee so that we still get it as well otherwise it will just transfer. Mr. Smith said that you have to be archived at a cost of \$35.00. Mr. Giannakis said that otherwise, what you are saying, doesn't necessarily hold true. Mr. Chapman asked if it is a one-time fee of \$35.00. Mr. Smith said that it is \$35.00 every time he moves.

Mr. Pennisi said that he is assuming that just like when a volunteer gets fingerprinted in the district and gets it done in grade school and their kids are moving up, as long as there is no break in the service for the parent volunteer then you don't have to do it because they are still on the list and we will get notified. If they decide not to volunteer for a year then we have to redo it.

Mr. Giannakis said that if someone takes a job in another district then those fingerprints are going to get sent over to that district.

Public Relations

No current report.

Shared Services

No current report

Special Education

No current report.

Traffic Liaison

No current report.

SEPAC Liaison

Mr. Both reported that there was a SEPAC meeting last night over at the Middle School where Mr. Walter Calman presented. He talked about transitioning from grade level up to age 21 into adulthood and how to manage the system. Mr. Both said that it is a difficult and challenges process which he has done with his sister.

Mr. Both said that he received a text last night that said they have a great turnout but Mr. Both said that they are there for the concert. Mr. Both said that they are still struggling to get attendance. Mr. Both reported that Friday is Cookies with Santa at Kennedy School

Mrs. Boyle said that Mr. Calman did a great job with his presentation. She said that is what he does for his job, about when a child reaches 21 and the things involved with that.

Mrs. Boyle said that the only problem is that the doors were locked last night and we couldn't get in so people were walking down through the concert and then the gate that we had to cross had to be unlocked. She said that she doesn't know why because that SEPAC meeting was scheduled.

Mr. Giannakis said that he was there early, opened the doors, and he and Keith stood at those doors to let people in until a janitor arrived. He said they stood there the entire time so there was nobody that couldn't get in.

Mrs. Boyle said that Michele Both told her that they had to walk all the way down to go through the concert and go through the gates. Mr. Giannakis said that only Mr. both did. Everyone else was standing at the front door and that was before the meeting started at a quarter after. Mrs. Boyle said that she was there also and she had to wait for Mr. Both to go and open it up. Mr. Giannakis said that they were standing right there in the vestibule so it wasn't to the point where nobody could get in. Mr. Giannakis said that he does not want that perception out there because that is not accurate. He said that they were there 15 minutes before the meeting started, they stood there before anyone else came and then they held the doors open for anyone that came in until the janitors got there to open the door.

Mr. Both said that in the defense of the janitor, there was a music festivity last night and everyone was on hands last night for that. He said that he can understand what went on with us and he said that he spoke with Mr. Vroom and it was quickly corrected. Mr. Both said that they will often speak with Mrs. Plate or Ms. Mercier beforehand. Last night was not a big issue. Everything was in order. Mr. Both said that he has been involved with SEPAC for about a decade now. When the doors are locked, one of us will stand there. We have modern technology and cell phones and we can call down to the room and tell them when people are coming. It is not a big issue.

Mrs. Boyle said that nobody said it was a big issue, she just said that the doors were locked and she couldn't get in.

Legislative Liaison

Mrs. Boyle reported the following legislative updates:

- New board member training is coming up. There is a three-day program coming up. The January program is already filled but you can go to the February training.
- Information on the Holocaust and Armistead has to be in the curriculum for grades K-12, otherwise the district loses points on QSAC.
- Path to Progress states fiscal situations and there is a big push going on right now for consolidating districts.
- School funding is still an issue.
- The DOE gave a report on emergency aid.
- The November ballot question started out at a Billion dollars but the Governor slashed that down to \$500 Million. She said that he felt that it wouldn't pass if it was a Billion dollars.
- There will be competitive projects. Criteria will be forthcoming on how you can apply for that. The district may have to match whatever the grant is that they are given and there will be strict parameters.
- There is a bill on sexual misconduct and more PD training needs to be given.
- Bus safety and the need for enhanced training.
- They discussed reducing the healthcare for State and local employees from platinum to gold and the cost to employees on their healthcare benefit.
- They are increasing minimum wages.
- They talked about the PARCC testing. There is still tweaking to the criteria for that.
- There is not enough funding for IDEA and Special Education costs
- The School Boards feel that the congressman and the assembly be involved in COAH. Right now it is only state but it needs to be federal.
- There is also a public service regarding a loan app that is coming out.
- Rebuild American School Act would advance funds to different school districts to enhance their buildings or rebuild their buildings.

Mrs. Boyle reported that she asked Mr. Damato, our former Business Administrator, to give a presentation along with Mr. David Pawlowski, South Brunswick Business Administrator to do a presentation on the Preparation and Formulation of a Budget and what board members should know. Mrs. Boyle said that Mr. Damato did a great job with the presentation. He was very easy to understand and he gave a lot of information and facts. Again, thank you to Mr. Damato for always being involved.

Next, Mrs. Boyle discussed the following Federal updates:

- Individuals with Disabilities Acts in Education - Working with NJSBA they have the opportunity to go to congress to promote the reauthorization of individuals with disabilities act which is IDEA.
- Title II – Teacher quality – Next year the house of Senate Education Committee will focus on Reauthorizing Higher Education Act.
- The Federal budget and appropriations for 2020-21. The senate budget committee will likely continue to push to adopt budgeting reform. They still have to go over through the school funding act.
- The 2020 census will be online. This is the first time the census will be conducted that way. For people that don't have computers they can go to the local library and take the census. Mrs. Boyle said that she doesn't know if they are going to have another alternative for people that can't actually get out of their home to take the census but that will be forthcoming.

Mr. Giannakis asked what impact the increase in minimum wage will have on the Board of Education. Mrs. Boyle said that it will affect anyone who receives minimum wage and that it doesn't necessarily mean Boards of Education. Mr. Chapman said that he thinks it could affect us through our contract. Mrs. Boyle said that we pay people salary where it is broken down so she doesn't know if it will affect someone that is a bus aide.

Mr. Chapman said to Mrs. Boyle that a few months ago he asked her to reach out to see if she can schedule a meeting for the Board to talk to the legislatures about the transgender policy. He asked her where we stand with that. Mrs. Boyle said that Mr. Chapman wasn't here the day that she reported that. That did not come from legislative members. That came from the state doe. That is their guidelines. Mr. Chapman thanked Mrs. Boyle.

Mr. Cassio asked Mrs. Boyle how the congressmen feel about underfunding Special Education. Mrs. Boyle said that Congressman Pallone feels that there should be an increase and he understands the need for additional funding for special education, for transportation. She said hopefully now that he is re-elected he will bring that back to committee. She said that they talked about the fact that when you send a student out there are different rates on different schools that we send them to. They don't all charge the same rate so he was going to look into that.

Mrs. Boyle added that COAH is State and he is federal but he shares sentiments of being forced to have developments of low income and modern income housing upon municipalities and he knows that it affects the school districts.

DISCUSSION:

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Susanne Ardito, 326 Liberoul Road, said that Winter Guard does not currently have a place to practice. Right now they are using the auditorium but they might be hitting

lights with their flags. She added that they are small right now, only five members, but she said she understands that they haven't been able to find space.

Dr. Lishak said that this is the first that she is hearing about it. She said that she will give a call to Mr. McCann tomorrow and we will find something.

Mrs. Ardito said that they did not have the gym last year. They snuck in around other clubs, other sports so they didn't really have a space last year either. They were larger last year and she said that she thinks that might be part of why they went down in number because of not having space and loss of the paid people that were managing it last year. Dr. Lishak said that they will find the space.

XIV. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Cassio said that Dr. Lishak had mentioned about the little girl that had heart surgery. Mr. Cassio said that he wanted to relay that they are taking donations and you can go online to TAP and see that article to see who to forward that money to.

Mr. Cassio said that he was asked to remind everyone that the Athletic Booster Club toy drive ends on Friday. They are taking toys up to age 17. Unwrapped gifts can be taken to the athletic department office at the high school.

Mr. Cassio also said that Parent Palooza was an eye-opener for him. He said that he went to the class on Instagram and Snapchat where he learned about the emoji's mean that kids are sending back and forth. He said that he was amazed and said that the counselors did a great job. Mr. Cassio said that he didn't see the other seminars but look forward to more in the future.

Mr. Cassio also congratulated the Board of Ed members that were elected and he told Mr. Smith that he is sad to see him go and wished him luck in his future endeavors.

Mrs. Boyle said that Mr. Errico mentioned at the concert the other day about donations for Amanda and he said to send donations to the student council. There are various options to give donations to.

Mrs. Boyle said that Mr. Parisi and Ms. Lee did a great job with the Franklin School concert. She said that it is amazing to watch the little student do such a great job.

Mrs. Boyle also thanked the Robots Team Parents Organization, the National Honor Society students, and Joe Scudato and the Squires, along with various students who helped with UNICO as part of their community services.

The high school senior citizen concert today that was held showed such amazing talent by all the students. Mrs. Boyle thanked the High School Student council and their advisor, Mr. Encinas, for hosting the luncheon and to Sodexo for the great hot lunch.

Mrs. Boyle said that a great job was done on the mental health portion of the Parent Palooza. She said that in January, the Middlesex County School Boards is going to do a presentation for Governance and also that will be one of the presentation on mental health and the signs and how to help these students. She said that sometimes mental health just comes on, it's nothing that was within you. It's created by many different variations.

Mrs. Boyle told Mr. Smith that we will miss him and she thanked him for being here and giving us his time and guidance.

Mr. Giannakis said goodbye and thank you to our current Business Administrator and he welcomed our new Assistant Business Administrator, Mr. Yazici.

Mr. Chapman said that he wasn't at the Parent Palooza but he did speak to parents that were there and they were very happy and word has spread around. There are parents that weren't able to go and they are looking forward to the next one. He said that a great job was done by Dr. Lishak, the administrators, the educational support staff and everyone that was involved in that. He said that we needed it, it is appreciated and he looks forward to the next one.

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

RESOLVED, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 47-:1A-1 *et. seq.*) that the Board meets in closed session at this time to discuss confidential matters pertaining to: (select one or more)

1. a matter rendered confidential by federal or state law
2. a matter in which release of information would impair the right to receive government funds
3. material the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy
4. a collective bargaining agreement and/or negotiations related to it
5. a matter involving the purchase, lease, or acquisition of real property with public funds
6. protection of public safety and property and/or investigations of possible violations or violations of law
7. pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation and/or matters of attorney-client privilege
8. specific prospective or current employees unless all who could be adversely affected request an open session.
9. deliberation after a public hearing that could result in a civil penalty or other loss

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the matters discussed in closed session shall be made public as soon as the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis

SECOND: Mr. Both

VOTE: 7-0

Following executive session, Mr. Chapman asked for the Motion for personnel #9B

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis SECOND: VOTE: 7-0

XVI. AGENDA APPROVAL

RESOLVED, that the agenda for the regular public meeting on December 19, 2018, as may have been modified, is hereby approved.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis SECOND: Mr. Pennisi VOTE: 7-0

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business of the Board, there was a motion to adjourn at 8:50 p.m.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis SECOND: Mr. Pennisi VOTE: 7-0