

# DEMAREST BOARD OF EDUCATION

## COW and REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

### Luther Lee Emerson School – Gymnasium December 15, 2020 7:00 P.M.

#### I. OPENING

- A. The meeting was called to order by President Holzberg at 7:00 P.M.
- B. Present: Cantatore, Choi, Governale, Lee, Verna, Holzberg.  
Absent: Schliem  
Also present: Mr. Fox, Superintendent and Ms. Kelly Business Administrator/ Board Secretary
- C. President Holzberg read the following announcement:  
The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon.

In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Demarest Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted at the Borough Hall and at the Middle School and by notifying in writing two newspapers: The Record and The Suburbanite.

#### II. FLAG SALUTE

- A. President Holzberg led the flag salute.

#### III. ROLL CALL

Present: Cantatore, Governale, Kirtane, Lee, Verna, Holzberg.  
Absent: Schliem  
Also present: Mr. Fox, Superintendent and Ms. Kelly Business Administrator/ Board Secretary

#### IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS

- A. It was moved by Verna, seconded by Governale and approved by unanimous voice vote of those present to approve:
  - November 17, 2020 COW and Regular Meeting Minutes
  - November 17, 2020 Executive Session Meeting Minutes

#### V. CORRESPONDENCE

- A. None at this time

#### VI. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- A. Board President Holzberg wished everyone a wonderful holiday season and a happy new year.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- A. Superintendent Fox commented on the following:
- Thank you to the principals for everything they have done. They would be presenting some new changes to our schedule when we come back from break.
  - Thank you to all staff, secretaries, custodians, and students for assisting us in being able to open physically for 60 school days.
  - The community has been working extremely well with our nurses and administration in keeping students home when needed.
  - We are excited for the County Road School addition project.
  - Wish everyone a happy holiday and new year

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

IX. OTHER REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Principal Regan and Principal Mazzini reviewed the following:  
Appreciation for the success we have found this fall. Thanked each constituent group within the school community for their role in the success:

- Our teachers and aides are exceeding our expectations and doing a tremendous job adapting to the circumstances.
- Our students have been resilient and are generally elated to be in school.
- Mr. Reynoso has been keeping the school up and running given our significant reliance on technology.
- Our secretaries have demonstrated their determination and passion for their respective schools.
- Our custodians for their diligence in cleaning.

They thanked the board of education for continued support of our mission to provide the children of our community with excellence in education despite our challenging circumstances.

X. REVIEW OF AGENDA

- A. Board members reviewed the items.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no motion for public comment being no one from the public was present.

XII. ACTIONS

A. Instruction – Staffing

1. It was moved by Choi, seconded by Governale and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve to approve the provisional employment of the following, substitute teachers for the remainder of the 2020/2021 school year, as recommended by the Chief

School Administrator. Employment status would become effective upon candidate's compliance with P.L. 1986, c.116 (revised 6/30/98) and N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.7.

- Maria Dargan
- Nicole Hayden
- Adam Labalkin
- Jake Rispoli

B. Instruction – Pupils/Programs  
None

C. Support Services – Staffing

1. It was moved by Leei, seconded by Governale and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve to approve paid sick leave for Benjamin Desic, County Road School custodian, from October 26, 2020 to November 14, 2020 and unpaid FMLA from October 26, 2020 to January 15, 2021, with a return to work date of January 18, 2021 as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

D. Support Services – Board of Education

1. It was moved by Governale, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve to approve the first reading of Policy(ies), Regulation(s) and Bylaw(s) as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

1642 Earned Sick Leave Law – Policy and Regulation
0146.6 Remote Public Board Meetings during a Declared Emergency - Bylaw

2. It was moved by Governale, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve to approve the final reading and adoption of Policy(ies), Regulation(s) and Bylaw(s):

9130 Public Complaints and Grievances – Policy & Regulation
0152 – Board Officers –Bylaw
1581 – Domestic Violence – Policy (M)
1581 - Domestic Violence - Regulation (M) (NEW)
2422 - Health and Physical Education (M)
5330 - Administration of Medication - Policy & Regulation (M)
7423 - Supervision of Construction - Policy (M)
8210 - School Year – Policy
8220 - School Day - Policy (M)
8220 - School Closings - Regulation
8462 - Reporting Potentially Missing or Abused Children - Policy (M)
1649 – Federal Families First Coronavirus (COVID-19) Response Act (FFCRA) - Policy (M) (NEW)
2270 - Religion in Schools -Policy
2431.1 – Heat Participation Policy for Student-Athlete Safety - Policy (M)
2622 – Student Assessment - Policy (M)

5111 – Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students - Policy & Regulation (M)
5200 - Attendance - Policy & Regulation (M)
5320 – Immunization - Policy & Regulation
5610 – Suspension - Policy & Regulation (M)
5620 - Expulsion – Policy (M)
8320 - Personnel Records – Policy & Regulation (M)
1620 – Administrative Employment Contracts Policy
2431 – Athletic Competition - Policy (M)
2431.1 – Emergency Procedures for Athletic Practices and Competitions - Regulation (M)
2464 – Gifted and Talented Students - Policy (M)
5330.05 – Seizure Action Plan – Policy & Regulation (M) (NEW)
6440 – Cooperative Purchasing - Policy (M)
6470.01 - Electronic Funds Transfer and Claimant Certification – Policy & Regulation (M) (NEW)
7440 - School District Security – Policy & Regulation (M)
7450 – Property Inventory - Policy (M)
7510 – Use of School Facilities – Policy & Regulation (M)
8420 – Emergency and Crisis Situations - Policy (M)
1648 - Restart and Recovery Plan (M) (Revised) Policy
1648.03 - Restart and Recovery Plan - Full-Time Remote Instruction (M) (New) Policy
0164.6 Remote Public Board Meeting During a Declared Emergency Policy

3. It was moved by Governale, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve to accept grant award from Bergen County Utilities Authority in the amount of \$1,000.00 for the purchase of classroom greenhouses and hydroponics, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

4. It was moved by Governale, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve to accept the Coronavirus Relief Fund Grant in the amount of \$16,700 and to approve the revenue and appropriation budget lines, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

Revenue	20-4532-000
Appropriations	20-479-200-610-000-90-00

5. It was moved by Governale, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve to accept the Bergen County Cares Act Grant in the amount of \$25,000 and to approve the revenue and appropriation budget lines, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

Revenue	20-4530-001
Appropriations	20-477-200-610-000-90-01

6. It was moved by Governale, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve to approve the following personnel to attend CPR/AED training with Audrey Donahue on January 18, 2021 in the Demarest Middle School gymnasium at a cost of \$150 for supplies from LifeSavers, Inc., as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

- Laura Noel
- Danielle Spence
- Kathleen Forma
- Andrew Lefer
- Walt Gonzalez
- Julia Lefer
- Allie Avillo
- Jon Regan
- Joe Polvere
- Jen Rilli

7. It was moved by Governale, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve to approve the following vendor(s) for evaluations for the 2020/2021 school year, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

Ronit Agassi	Speech (Hebrew)
Ellen Nathan-Gruber	Speech (Hebrew)

8. It was moved by Governale, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve to approve the scheduling of the 2021 Annual Reorganization meeting for Tuesday, January 5, 2020 at 5:30 P.M. in the Luther Lee Emerson School gymnasium, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator

\*modified from January 7, 2020 for location.

9. It was moved by Governale, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve to approve the revised 2021-2022 budget calendar as attached, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

10. It was moved by Governale, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve to approve Health Equity as the district administrator of the Flexible Spending Account (FSA) as of January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

11. It was moved by Governale, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve to approve the payment of accumulated sick time for Isabelle Cavalli of 4 days in the amount of \$100.00 as per Article VIII-5 of the DEA/Demarest Board of Education Agreement and as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

12. It was moved by Governale, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve to approve the payment of accumulated sick time for Dixie Nolan of 110.5 days in the amount of \$3,117.50 as per Article VIII-5 of the DEA/Demarest Board of Education Agreement and as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

E. Support Services – Fiscal Management

1. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Governale and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve to confirm the November 30, 2020 payroll in the amount of \$414,639.67.

2. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Governale and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve to confirm the December 15, 2020 payroll in the amount of \$448,354.24.

3. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Governale and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve to approve the November 2020 in office checks in the amount of \$288,139.14 and December 15, 2020 budget checks in the amount of \$567,244.12 as follows:

<u>Subtotal Per Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11 General Current Expense	\$839,068.26
12 Capital Outlay	<u>\$ 16,315.00</u>
Total Bills:	\$855,383.26

4. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Governale and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve to approve the following resolution:

Receipt of Certification from Board Secretary

Pursuant to N.J.A.C 6:20-2.13 (d), I, Antoinette Kelly certify that as of November 30, 2020 no budgetary line item account has obligations or payments (contractual orders) which in total exceeds the amount appropriated by the district Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A 18A:22-8 and 18A:22-8.1.

5. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Governale and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve to approve the following resolution:

Certification of Board of Education

Pursuant to N.J.A.C 6:20-2.13 (e), we certify that as of November 30, 2020 after review of the secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district official, to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over-extended in violation of NJAC 6:20-2.13 (b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

6. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Governale and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve to acknowledge receipt of the October 2020 Report of the Board Secretary, A148 and Report of the Treasurer, A-149.

7. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Governale and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve to confirm the following budget transfer for November 2020:

<u>To:</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11-000-213-610	Health Services Other General Supplies	\$ 3,650
11-000-261-420	Required Maintenance-Repairs	18,745
11-000-262-520	Operation & Maint. -Custodial Insurance	<u>249</u>
		\$ 22,644

<u>From:</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11-000-213-110	Health Services Temporary Salaries	\$ 3,650
11-000-261-610	Required Maintenance-General Supplies	18,745
11-000-262-490	Operation & Maint.-Custodial-Other Purch.Services	<u>249</u>
		\$ 22,644

F. Other

1. It was moved by Verna, seconded by Cantatore and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Demarest Board of Education will convene in a closed Executive Session on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 if necessary, to discuss personnel, student and/or legal matters.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the nature of the discussion is expected to be disclosed to the public at a future date.

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no motion for public comment being no one from the public was present.

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

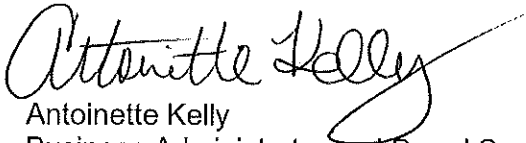
XVII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. There was no motion to enter the Executive Session.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

A. It was moved by Holzberg, seconded by Verna and approved by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 P.M.

Sincerely,

  
Antoinette Kelly  
Business Administrator and Board Secretary