

DEMAREST BOARD OF EDUCATION
COW and REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES
County Road School – Media Center
May 16, 2023
7:00 P.M.

I. OPENING

- A. The meeting was called to order by President Holzberg at 6:30 pm.
- B. Present: Brillhart, Cantatore, Choi, Governale, Lee, Verna, Holzberg.
Absent: None
Also present: Mr. Fox/ Superintendent and Ms. Kelly Business Administrator/ Board Secretary

II. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. The Board determined it will enter into executive session for the following reasons:
 - 1. Personnel
- B. It was moved by Choi seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous voice vote of those present to approve the following resolution to enter the executive session:

WHEREAS, in order to protect the personal privacy and to avoid situations wherein the public interest might be disserved, the Open Public Meetings Act permits public bodies to exclude the public from that portion of a meeting at which certain matters are discussed;

WHEREAS, the length of the closed executive session is estimated to be thirty minutes, after which the Regular Public Meeting will reconvene and proceed with business where formal action may or may not be taken;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that consistent with the provision of N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b), the Board of Education will now adjourn to executive session to discuss items stated above; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board hereby declares that its discussion of the aforementioned subjects will be made public at a time when the public's interest in disclosure is greater than any privacy or governmental interest being protected from disclosure.

- C. It was moved by Choi, seconded by Verna and approved by unanimous voice vote of those present to convene executive session at 7:00 P.M.

III. REOPEN PUBLIC MEETING

- A. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Choi to reopen the Regular Meeting to the public at 7:00 P.M.
- B. President Holzberg read the following announcement:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure 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.

IV. FLAG SALUTE

A. President Holzberg led the flag salute.

V. ROLL CALL

Present: Brillhart, Cantatore, Choi, Governale, Lee, Holzberg.

Absent: Verna

Also present: Mr. Fox, Superintendent and Ms. Kelly Business Administrator/ Board Secretary

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS

A. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Governale and approved by unanimous voice vote of those present to approve:

- April 18, 2023 COW Meeting Minutes
- April 18, 2023 Executive Session Meeting Minutes
- April 25, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes
- April 25, 2023 Executive Session Meeting Minutes

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

None at this time.

VIII. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A. Board President Holzberg reported on the Northern Valley joint board meeting.

IX. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Superintendent Fox reported on the following:

- Luther Lee Emerson school concert.
- PTO dance raised funds for students.
- Custodians working hard. Please thank them when you see them.
- Demarest Middle School concert is tomorrow night.
- Demarest Middle School 8th grade is going to Washington DC next week.

X. COMMITTEE REPORTS

None at this time.

XI. OTHER REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

None at this time.

XII. REVIEW OF AGENDA

A. Board members reviewed the items.

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

No public comments.

XIV. ACTIONS

A. Instruction – Staffing

1a. It was moved by Brillhart, seconded by Cantatore and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to award tenure to Julia Amaya, for the 2023/2024 school year, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

1b. It was moved by Choi, seconded by Governale and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to award tenure to Hyewon Mohanram, for the 2023/2024 school year, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

1c. It was moved by Lee, seconded by Governale and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to award a tenure contract to Audrey Moran, for the 2023/2024 school year*, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

*effective April 23, 2023

1d. It was moved by Governale, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to award a tenure contract to Nicole Petri, for the 2023/2024 school year, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

1e. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Choi and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to award a tenure contract to Katherine Shaughnessy, for the 2023/2024 school year, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

1f. It was moved by Brillhart, seconded by Choi and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to award a tenure contract to Kelly Tiscornia, for the 2023/2024 school year, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

It was moved by Choi, seconded by Cantatore and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to suspend the normal order of business at 7:15 PM.

It was moved by Choi, seconded by Brillhart and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to resume the normal order of business at 7:30 PM.

2. It was moved by Brillhart, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve the provisional employment of the following substitute teachers for the 2022/2023 school year, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator. Employment status would become effective upon candidates compliance with P.L. 1986, c.116 (revised 6/30/98) and N.J.S.A. 19A:6-7.7.

- Reilly Medzadourian

3. It was moved by Brillhart, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve the provisional employment of Lia DiPiazza, County Road School Physical Education, Health Teacher, BA, Step 3, for the 2023/2024 school year, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator. Employment status would become effective upon the candidate's compliance with P.L. 1986, c.116 (revised 6/30/98) and N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.7. Salary and step will be adjusted upon the final settlement of the contract between the Demarest Board of Education and the Demarest Education Association.

4. It was moved by Brillhart, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve the appointment of the following tenure teachers for the 2023/2024 school year, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator. Salary and step will be adjusted upon

the contract settlement between the Demarest Board of Education and the Demarest Education Association:

Name	Guide
Acosta, Elvia	MA S7
Amaya, Julia	BA S8
Appelblatt, Colleen	MA+60 S11
Avillo, Alexandra	MA S8
Bajdechi, Gabriela	MA S11
Betz, Maureen	MA S19
Borghi, Loretta	MA S19
Calegari, Suzanne	MA S17
Choman, Christie	BA S9
Conti, Corinne	BA S11
DiMartini, Bridget	MA+32 S17
DuBoisSpence, Danielle	MA S11
Duby, Deborah	MA S19
Epiphaniou, Dawn	MA+32 S12
Erol, Kristen	MA S19
Feifer, Allison	MA+45 S18
Ferraro, Laura	MA+16 S8
Fine Glaser, Wendy	MA+32 S9
Forma, Kathleen	MA+60 S10
Garbatow, Carly	MA+16 S10
Geller, Janna	MA+60 S19
Gonzales, Walter	BA+16 S15
Greenberg, Michelle	MA S19
Gronek, Kristen	MA+16 S7
Guirguis, Janet	MA S17
Harley, Tara	BA S10
Heffler, Wendy	BA S8
Hubener, Katelyn	MA S9
Karrenberg, Denise	BA S19
Kerber, Kristen	MA S9
Kim, Sarah	MA S8
Konight, Kristin	BA+16 S19

Lefer, Andrew	MA+16 S10
Lefer, Julia	MA+16 S10
Lew, Sunny	BA+32 S19
Licameli, Lauren	MA+16 S19
Long, Gina	MA+32 S19
Magnifico, Lauren	MA S13
McBride, Shannon	BA S6
McDermott, Karleen	MA S19
Mliczek, Nancy	MA+45 S12
Mohanram, Hyewon	MA+16 S4
Moran, Audrey	MA S4
Murphy, Toby	MA+16 S17
Nerkizian, Chris	MA+32 S16
O'Connell, Sharon	MA S19
O'Hara, Alexandria	MA+32 S11
Paspalas, Cynthia	BA S19
Petri, Nicole	MA+32 S4
Picinich, Heather	MA S10
Plescia, Alyssa	MA S7
Plunkett, Jennifer	MA S19
Polvere, Joseph	MA+60 S12
Porto, Alison (.625)	.625 MA S10
Quillen, Carl	MA+16 S19
Reynolds, Christine	MA S8
Ricciutti, Ellen	MA+60 S19
Rilli, Jennifer	MA S19
Rinckhoff, Sherri	MA S19
Rohn, Regina	BA+32 S14
Scheuring, Danielle	MA+32 S8
Schoepflin, Jessica	MA S8
Shaughnessy, Katherine	MA S4
Stokes, Douglas	MA S19
Stokes, Sara	MA S18
Sydoruk-Rebele, Paige	MA+60 S14
Tiscornia, Kelly	MA S8

Urban, Heather	MA S12
Werner, Joanne	MA+16 S19
Zemba, John	BA S19
Zimmerman, Tori	BA S19

5. It was moved by Brillhart, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve the appointment of the following non-tenure teachers for the 2023/2024 school year, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator. Salary and step will be adjusted upon the contract settlement between the Demarest Board of Education and the Demarest Education Association:

Name	Guide
Ahn, Gie Su	BA S6
Baldi, Alyssa	MA S3
Bronstein, Jacqueline	MA S4
Bruno, Kaitlyn	MA S6
Chabora, Sara	BA S4
Feduska, Carly	MA S3
Iannello, Jennifer	MA S2
Main, Michael	MA S2
Martinez, Rocio	MA S19
Mascarelli, Nicole	BA S1
Raccioppi, Jessica	BA S4
Ross, Caitlin	BA S3
Sanborn, Mary	MA S6
Sullivan, Mary	MA+45 S15

6. It was moved by Brillhart, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve the request of Heather Picinich, School Social Worker, for continued leave of absence through the 2023/2024 school year, with a return to work date of the 2024/2025 school year, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.
7. It was moved by Brillhart, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve Abigail Lopez, FMLA replacement for Heather Picinich, School Social Worker, for the 2023/2024 school year, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.
8. It was moved by Brillhart, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve the request of Shannon McBride, Preschool 3 teacher at County Road School, for paid sick leave from May 3, 2023 through June 2, 2023, unpaid FMLA leave from June 3, 2023 through the end of the 2022/2023 school year, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

9. It was moved by Brillhart, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve the appointment of the following non-tenure teachers for the 2023/2024 school year, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator. Salary and step will be adjusted upon the contract settlement between the Demarest Board of Education and the Demarest Education Association:

Name	Guide
Patel, Reena	MA 32, step 1

10. It was moved by Brillhart, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to accept the resignation of Jacqueline Bronstein, Grade 2 teacher at Luther Lee Emerson School, effective June 30, 2023, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

B. Instruction – Pupils/Programs

1. It was moved by Choi, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve the following field trip(s), as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

Location	Date	Grade/Group
Duck Pond Demarest	5/16	5th-grade science class

2. It was moved by Choi, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve the establishment of an ERI (Emotional Regulation Impairment) program at Luther Lee Emerson School, for the 2023/2024 school year, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.
3. It was moved by Choi, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve the athletic schedules as attached, for girls basketball and boys basketball for the 2023/2024 school year, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

C. Support Services – Staffing

1. It was moved by Lee, seconded by Cantatore and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve the following teachers as chaperones for the overnight student field trips in the amount of \$150.00 per person, per night, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

Washington DC
E. Acosta
L. Bohmer
S. Calegari*

B. DiMartini
S. Lew
K. McDermott
H. Mohanram
J. Polvere
C. Reynolds
J. Werner*
S. Zuidervliet
J. Regan^

*additional \$150.00 for trip coordinator

^administrator - no compensation

2. It was moved by Lee, seconded by Cantatore and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve the appointment of the following custodial and maintenance staff for the 2023/2024 school year, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator. Salary and step will be adjusted upon the salary negotiation settlement with the Demarest Board of Education:

Last	First	Step
Bolt	Michael	17
Cabrera	Neilin	12
Cazimoski	Demir H	2 (10Mo.)
Dervisi	Sami	6
Desic	Izet	6
Desic	Nusret	3
Kuzmanovski	Vasil	1
Mekhsian	Hrant	12
Montuori	John	14
Redzepe	Fitni	12
Rosero-Villacres	Eddie Patricio	17
Yakoubian	Aram	11

3. It was moved by Lee, seconded by Cantatore and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve the appointment of the following secretaries for the 2023/2024 school year, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator. Salary and step will be adjusted upon the salary negotiation settlement with the Demarest Board of Education:

Last	First	Step
Koopalethes	Miriam	13
Miller	Kari	15
Piccini	Stephanie	7
Rraci	Mirlinda	2
Torre	Jeanne	8

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 the following request for facilities use on the following dates, in accordance with policy 7510, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

Event	Date(s) and time	Location
Vikings Soccer	8/28/23-11/15/23 4:00-7:00 PM	LLE field
Vikings Soccer	8/28/23-11/15/23 Monday, Wednesday, Friday 4:00-7:00 PM	DMS field
PTO Book Fair	10/24/23-10/27/23 8:00AM - 6:00 PM	LLE gymnasium
PTO Book Fair	10/25-10/26 3:30 - 6:00 PM	LLE blacktop (by basketball area)
PTO Fourth grade moving up ceremony	6/16/23 12:00-3:05 PM	LLE gymnasium and cafeteria

2. It was moved by Governale, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve Frank Mazzini as Affirmative Action Officer (AAO) for the 2023/2024 School Year, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.
3. It was moved by Governale, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve a Joint Transportation Agreement between the Demarest Board of Education and the Alpine Board of Education for the 2023-2024 School Year, 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 the donation of a storage container to the Borough of Demarest Department of Public Works as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.
5. . It was moved by Governale, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve the Title IIA, III, III-Immigrant, and IV-Part A Consortium Memorandum of Agreement between the Northern Valley Regional High School Board of Education, as Lead Applicant, and the Demarest School District for the 2023-2024 school year, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

In order to gain the full advantages of the ESEA Grant, the Northern Valley Schools have formed a consortium for Title IIA, III, III- Immigrant, and IV-Part A. The Demarest School District (in conjunction with all other Northern Valley Regional School Districts) agrees to be a part of this consortium. The filing, writing and collection of resources will be handled through the Northern Valley Curriculum Center, under the administration of the Northern Valley Regional High School, which has been designated as the acting fiscal agent and lead education agency ("LEA") for the consortium.

As the LEA, the fiscal responsibilities of the Northern Valley Regional High School District include:

1. Overseeing and undertaking all fiscal transactions of the consortium, including but not limited to, requisitions, purchases and payments of ESEA grant funds;
2. Maintaining records of all financial transactions carried out on behalf of the consortium;
3. Ensuring that funds are shared and spent to carry out goals in the application that benefit all consortium members equally;
4. Submitting necessary budget amendments; and
5. Maintaining the written agreement(s) regarding consortium members' participation.

To meet the accountability provisions of Titles II, III and IV of the ESEA, the consortium will abide by the ESEA, governing regulations, the Title II, III, III Immigrant and IV Part A NJDOE and ESEA application, and all related United States Department of Education and New Jersey Department of Education agency guidance. Additionally, and regarding the accountability provisions of Title III, all English language Learners (ELLs) will be assessed with the ACCESS for ELLs test. The consortium will respond as an individual LEA when the consortium fails to meet the objectives for making progress in learning English or attaining English proficiency based on time in the language assistance program. The consortium will efficiently use ESEA funds to meet the identified needs of the consortium members and to carry out the purposes of the ESEA, as set forth in the consortium's 2023-2024 Title II, III, III Immigrant and IV Part A NJDOE and ESEA grant application.

The LEA will reimburse the Consortium Member for the compensation and applicable taxes and benefits for employees of each Consortium Member that provide eligible ESEA fund services.

Title I grant money received by any of the consortium members will be the responsibility of the respective consortium member(s) and is not subject to this Memorandum of Agreement.

6. It was moved by Governale, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve contract with BCSSSD for public law 1977 chapters 192-193 for non-public students for the 2023/2024 school year, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.
7. It was moved by Governale, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve Thrive Alliance Group for support services for the ERI program using ESSER III grant monies, not to exceed \$55,440.00, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.
8. It was moved by Governale, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve the submission of the proposed 2023/2024 contract for Antoinette Kelly, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, to the Executive County Superintendent, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

E. Support Services—Fiscal Management

1. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to confirm the following April 2023 payrolls as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

April 6	\$ 478,126.28
April 30	\$ 456,316.70

2. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve April 25, 2023 bill list as follows, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

<u>Subtotal Per Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11 General Current Expense	\$ 457,112.66
12 Capital Outlay	\$ 42,779.88
20 Special Revenue Fund	\$ 6,892.13
21 Student Activity Account	\$ 23,193.69
30 Capital Projects Fund	\$ 33,839.61
60 Cafeteria Fund	\$ 15,923.23
Total Bills:	\$ 579,741.20

3. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve the following resolution, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

Receipt of Certification from Board Secretary

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13 (d), I, Antoinette Kelly, certify that as of April 30, 2023, no budgetary line item account has obligations or payments (contractual orders) that, 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.

4. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve the following resolution, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

Certification of Board of Education

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13 (e), we certify that as of April 30, 2023, 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.

5. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to acknowledge receipt of the April 2023 Report of the Board Secretary, A148, and the Report of the Treasurer, A-149, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.
6. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to confirm the following budget transfer for April 2023, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

To:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11-000-221-610	Improvement of Instruction-General Supplies	135.00
11-000-230-339	Support Service General Admin-Other Professional Services	28,762.25

11-150-100-101	Regular Programs-Home Instruction-Salaries	500.00
12-000-300-730	Food Service Cafeteria Equipment	5,140.91

From:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11-000-221-890	Improvement of Instruction-Other Objects	135.00
11-000-230-820	Support Services General Admin-Judgements Against the School District	20,000.00
11-000-230-530	Support Services General Admin-Communications	8,762.25
11-150-100-320	Regular Programs-Home Instruction-Purchased Prof. Services	400.00
11-130-100-110	Regular Programs-Grades 6-8-Substitute Salaries	100.00
12-000-270-733	Student Transportation Services-Equipment-School Bus	5,140.91

7. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve the tax levy schedule for the 2023/2024 school year, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

Month/Year	General Fund	Debt Service Fund	Total Tax Levy Due
July 2023	1,394,485	33,250	1,427,735
August 2023	1,394,485		1,394,485
September 2023	1,394,485		1,394,485
October 2023	1,394,485		1,394,485
November 2023	1,394,485		1,394,485
December 2023	1,394,485		1,394,485
January 2024	1,394,485	583,250	1,977,735
February 2024	1,394,485		1,394,485
March 2024	1,394,485		1,394,485

April 2024	1,394,485		1,394,485
May 2024	1,394,485		1,394,485
June 2024	1,394,483		1,394,485
Totals	16,733,818	616,500	17,350,318

XV. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

XVI. NEW BUSINESS

None at this time.

XVII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. There was no motion to enter the executive session.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

A. It was moved by Choi, seconded by Governale and approved by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 P.M.

Sincerely,

Antoinette Kelly
Business Administrator and Board Secretary

