

SOUTH AMBOY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Business/Public Meeting Minutes

July 27, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Open Meeting & immediately go into Executive/Closed Session

Public Meeting Agenda begins at 6:30 P.M.

Virtual Meeting using AT&T Conferencing (Call toll free 1-866-390-1828. Enter access code 9392521#. To enter the conference, press #)

Mr. Conrad, Board President called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Mr. Silvestro, called the roll:

Present: Mr. Albarran, Mr. Conrad, Ms. Conway, Mr. Dragotta Ms. Gonzalez, Ms. Kasics, Mrs. Taggart, Mr. Walsh

Absent: Ms. McLaughlin

Also Present: Jorge E. Diaz, Superintendent; Mr. Silvestro, Board Attorney

On a motion by Ms. Conway, and seconded by Mr. Walsh that the Board adjourned into Closed Session at 6:09 pm. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Silvestro read the following Closed Session Notice:

BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to the Sunshine Act, N.J.S. 10:4-12 and 13, the South Amboy Board of Education will now meet in closed session to discuss items falling under Attorney/Client Privilege, Student Related Matters, Personnel Matters, and negotiations.

The aforesaid subjects are within the exemptions permitted to be discussed in closed session in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-13. Information regarding the Board's closed session discussion will be disclosed to the public as soon as the need for confidentiality no longer exists. The Board will reconvene in public session at the conclusion of the closed session in approximately 30 minutes.

On a motion by Mrs. Taggart and seconded by Mr. Walsh that the Board reconvened into the public portion of the meeting at 6:43 pm. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Silvestro read the following Public Notice:

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of the public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon.

In compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law, the South Amboy Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting setting forth the time, date, and location to be submitted for publication to the Home News Tribune and posted at the Board Office, Middle/High School, Elementary School, City Hall, Library and Senior Citizens Center Bulletin Boards at least 48 hours in advance of this meeting. Members of the public who wish to address the Board will be given the opportunity before the Board adjourns for the evening.

Mr. Conrad led all assembled in the Flag Salute.

Prior to reviewing agenda, at request of Mr. Conrad, Mr. Diaz provided a summary of the school re-opening plan, including in-person and virtual instruction options. Mr. Diaz noted that Zoom conferences would be scheduled with public/parents and that survey was sent for parental input. Mr. Conrad thanked Superintendent and staff, custodians in particular. Mrs. Taggart asked questions about Zoom conferences. Mr. Diaz responded. Mr. Walsh also asked about the Zoom conferences and possible posting of FAQ on website. Mr. Diaz responded. Mr. Conrad thanked re-opening committee members.

Review/Comment/Approval of Agenda Items (Committee Chairs)**MINUTES****1. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

June 22, 2020
 June 22, 2020
 June 29, 2020
 June 29, 2020

Business-Public Meeting
 Closed Session/Business Meeting
CSA Agenda Minutes
 Closed Session/Business Meeting

EDUCATION & CURRICULUM**2. DISTRICT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN/2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR**

That the Board of Education approves the District School Professional Development Plan for the 2020-2021 school year as recommended by the Superintendent.

3. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN/2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

That the Board of Education approves the Elementary School Professional Development Plan for the 2020-2021 school year as recommended by the Superintendent.

4. MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN/2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

That the Board of Education approves the Middle High School Professional Development Plan for the 2020-2021 school year as recommended by the Superintendent.

5. DISTRICT MENTORING PLAN/2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

That the Board of Education approves the District Mentoring Plan for the 2020-2021 school year as recommended by the Superintendent. A copy of the plan is on file at the Board Office.

6. STAFF AND ADMINISTRATOR EVALUATION RUBRICS

That the Board of Education approves the Stronge Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Performance Evaluation rubrics for the 2020-2021 school year as recommended by the Superintendent.

Walsh expressed concerns re: items 2 and 3, specifically roll-out of new reading program during pandemic. Questions plan re: PD. Mr. Diaz notes planned PD in late August. Ms. Gonzalez asks if staff asked that it be postponed. Mr. Diaz says not to him or admin.

Mrs. Taggart asks if #5 is new and if not, any changes. Mr. Diaz says it is approved every June since he has been here. Mentoring data updated, otherwise same. Taggart also opposes roll-out of 2+3 during pandemic.

POLICY**7. REVISED/VISITORS POLICY #1250**

That the Board of Education approves the revision of the Visitors Policy #1250, as attached and recommended by the Superintendent.

8. REVISED/OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF PLANT POLICY #3510

That the Board of Education approves the revision of the Operation and Maintenance of Plant Policy #3510, as attached and recommended by the Superintendent.

9. REVISED/TRANSPORTATION SAFETY POLICY #3541.33

That the Board of Education approves the revision of the Transportation Safety Policy #3541.33, as attached and recommended by the Superintendent.

10. REVISED/ILLNESS POLICY #5141.2

That the Board of Education approves the revision of the Illness Policy #5141.2, as attached and recommended by the Superintendent.

11. REVISED/HEALTH EXAMINATIONS AND IMMUNIZATIONS POLICY #5141.3

That the Board of Education approves the revision of the Health Examinations and Immunizations Policy #5141.3, as attached and recommended by the Superintendent.

12. REVISED/CURRICULUM ADOPTION POLICY #6140

That the Board of Education approves the revision of the Curriculum Adoption Policy #6140, as attached and recommended by the Superintendent.

13. REVISED/EVALUATION AND SELECTION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS POLICY #6161.1

That the Board of Education approves the revision of the Evaluation and Selection of Instructional Materials Policy #6161.1, as attached and recommended by the Superintendent.

14. REVISED/EVALUATION OF INDIVIDUAL STUDENT PERFORMANCE POLICY #6147.1

That the Board of Education approves the revision of the Evaluation of Individual Student Performance Policy #6147.1, as attached and recommended by the Superintendent.

15. REVISED/EVALUATION OF INDIVIDUAL STUDENT PERFORMANCE REGULATION #6147.1R

That the Board of Education approves the revision of the Evaluation of Individual Student Performance Policy #6147.1R, as attached and recommended by the Superintendent.

Mr. Conrad and Mr. Diaz note that #7-11 are all due to re-opening plan, and that 14-15 are regarding report card changes; brief discussion re: same. Dr. Gurczeski discusses new models/standards for items 14-15 and answers Board questions.

PERSONNEL

16. APPROVE/TEACHER FOR CURRICULUM REVISION/2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

That the Board of Education approves the following teacher to revise the curriculum subject area listed for the 2020-2021 school year, as presented, and as recommended by the Superintendent.

- Life Skills - Middle School Nicole Eardley

17. APPROVE/TEACHER/KELSEY SCHIPSKE

That the Board of Education approves the employment of Kelsey Schipske as a English Teacher in the High School for the 2020-2021 school year. Her salary (BA, Step 6), with benefits, will be as reflected in the negotiated agreement between the Board of Education and the South Amboy Education Association. Employment is contingent upon completion of the Criminal Background Check (Policy#4211) and Physicals for Employees (Policy#4212.4)

18. APPROVE/TEACHER/JONATHAN POLLOCK

That the Board of Education approves the employment of Jonathan Pollock as a Special Education/English Teacher in the Middle School for the 2020-2021 school year. His salary (BA Step 1), with benefits, will be as reflected in the negotiated agreement between the Board of Education and the South Amboy Education Association. Employment is contingent upon completion of the Criminal Background Check (Policy#4211) and Physicals for Employees (Policy#4212.4)

19. APPROVE/TEACHER/SARAH HOBLER

That the Board of Education approves the employment of Sarah Hobler as a Special Education Teacher in the Middle School for the 2020-2021 school year. Her salary (MA Step 1), with benefits, will be as reflected in the negotiated agreement between the Board of Education and the South Amboy Education Association. Employment is contingent upon completion of the Criminal Background Check (Policy#4211) and Physicals for Employees (Policy#4212.4)

20. APPROVE/TEACHER/BRITTANY ROBINSON

That the Board of Education approves the employment of Brittany Robinson as a Math Teacher in the High School for the 2020-2021 school year. Her salary (MA Step 1), with benefits, will be as reflected in the negotiated agreement between the Board of Education and the South Amboy Education Association. Employment is contingent upon completion of the Criminal Background Check (Policy#4211) and Physicals for Employees (Policy#4212.4)

21. APPROVE/TEACHER/EVRIM AKMAN

That the Board of Education approves the employment of Evrim Akman as a Math/Special Education Teacher in the Middle School for the 2020-2021 school year. Her salary (BA Step 1), with benefits, will be as reflected in the negotiated agreement between the Board of Education and the South Amboy Education Association. Employment is contingent upon completion of the Criminal Background Check (Policy#4211) and Physicals for Employees (Policy#4212.4)

22. APPROVE/CUSTODIAN-MAINTENANCE/ERIC PERONE

That the Board of Education approves the employment of Eric Perone as a Custodian/Maintenance worker for the 2020-2021 school year. His salary (Step 1), with benefits, will be as reflected in the negotiated agreement between the Board of Education and the South Amboy Education Association. Employment is contingent upon completion of the Criminal Background Check (Policy#4211) and Physicals for Employees (Policy#4212.4)

23. RESIGNATION/SANDY DEL PRETE

That the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Sandy Del Prete, Bus Driver, effective June 20, 2020.

24. APPROVE/MATH TUTOR/GEORGE GUNDRUM

That the Board of Education approves the appointment of George Gundrum as a Math Tutor for the Middle High School for July 15, 2020-August 12, 2020 as recommended by the Superintendent. This will be an hourly rate of pay as per the contract.

2 Hours per week (2 Hour Sessions) 9:00 am to 11:00 am

25. HOME INSTRUCTORS/2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

That the Board of Education approves the appointment of the following individuals as Home Instructors for the 2020-2021 school year as recommended by the Superintendent. The stipend for these positions will be in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the Board of Education and the South Amboy Education Association:

ELEMENTARY	MIDDLE /HIGH SCHOOL
Rob Parks	Catharine Mollis
George Harduby	Nicole Eardley
Kimberly Gundrum	Diana Haag
----	Jessica Grasso
----	Diane Smocovich
----	Martina Torretta

26. APPROVAL OF SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PANELS (ScIP)/2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

That the Board of Education approves the composition of the School Improvement Panels (ScIP) for the 2020-2021 school year.

ELEMENTARY	MIDDLE /HIGH SCHOOL
Sean Dunphy	Patrick McCabe
Michelle Fincke	George Gundrum
Lori Cannon	Gayle Martinez
Barbara Falvo	Nicole Eardley
Mary-Anne Lewis	Frank Zalocki
Sharon Koy	Elizabeth Doherty
Michelle Masella	Diane Haag
-----	Wendy Sherman

BUDGET AND FINANCE

1. BUDGETARY TRANSFERS

The Board of Education approves the attached transfers for July 2020 in conjunction with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8-1 and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10. (Attachment)

1. EXPENDITURES FOR 6/23/2020-6/30/2020 (Attachment)

The Board of Education approves the following expenditures for 6/23/20-6/30/20

Bills For	Amount
Regular Bills	421,889.65
06/15/20	
Payroll	562,222.06
06/19/20	
Payroll	375,673.29
6/30/20 Payroll	89,574.41
TOTAL	\$1,449,359.41
June Agency	445,491.71

29. ACCEPT THE SECRETARY AND TREASURER REPORT – JULY 2020 (Attachment)

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Amboy Board Secretary, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 3, does hereby certify that as of the date of the reports, no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (a); the monthly financial reports of the Secretary and the Treasurer; and further recommends, in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 4, that the Board of Education certifies that no major account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (b), and that as of this report sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations for the remainder of the year.

1. ACCEPT THE JULY 2020 ORGANIZATIONAL FUND BALANCES

The Board of Education accepts the attached July 2020 Organizational Fund Balances. (Attachment)

1. ACCEPT THE JULY 2020 ATHLETIC FUND BALANCES

The Board of Education accepts the attached July 2020 Athletic Fund Balances. (Attachment)

1. APPROVAL OF SERVICE CONTRACT FOR 2020-2021 – N.J. COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND

The Board of Education approves service contract between the South Amboy Board of Education and N.J. Commission for the Blind for students #1478089520, #5981261432, #4015445792, for the period of September 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 in the total amount of \$6,300. (Copy of contract is on file in the Board Office)

1. APPROVAL OF AUTHORIZATION TO PROCURE GOODS AND SERVICES

That the Board of Education authorizes the Business Administrator to procure goods and services through state agencies (state contracts) and through county and other consortiums and commissions of which the district is a member.

34. APPROVAL OF AUTHORIZATION TO SOLICIT BIDS (AND RFPs AND RFQS)

That the Board of Education, pursuant to purchasing procedures, authorizes the Business Administrator to solicit bids (and RFPs and RFQs) for budgeted items as required by the procurement laws and regulations of the State of New Jersey and the State Board of Education.

35. APPROVAL OF TUITION CONTRACT FOR 2020-2021– THE HOLMDEL TOWNSHIP BOE

The Board of Education approves tuition contract between the South Amboy Board of Education and The Holmdel Township BOE for student #4610063134 for the period September 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 in the amount of \$25,811. (Copy of contract is on file in the Board Office).

36. APPROVE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, TRAVEL AND REIMBURSEMENT

The Board of Education approves the following professional development under the "Travel and Reimbursement Policy" of the South Amboy - Board of Education as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools:

Staff/Board Member	Program Date	Program Title or Event	Fees	GAAP Account
Lauren Kipper	June 29 th 2020	F&P Summer Literacy	\$199	20-270-200-300-01-00-00-060
Sheri Harlan, Lindsay Delucia, F. Laddaga & B. Falvo	July 31, 2020,	Writing Units of Study	\$300	20-270-200-300-01-00-00-062
	Sept 29, 2020	Writing Units of Study	\$300	20-270-200-300-01-00-00-060
	Nov 12, 2020	Writing Units of Study	\$300	20-270-200-300-01-00-00-060
	Dec 14, 2020	Writing Units of Study	\$300	20-270-200-300-01-00-00-060
S. Dunpy, M. Gurczeski, P. McCabe & F. Zalocki	8/24/20	IRR & Recertification	\$195	20-270-200-300-01-00-00-060
	8/24/20	IRR & Recertification	\$195	20-270-200-300-01-00-00-060
	8/24/20	IRR & Recertification	\$195	20-270-200-300-01-00-00-060
	8/24/20	IRR & Recertification	\$195	20-270-200-300-01-00-00-060

1. ACCEPT ALYSSA’S LAW GRANT ALLOCATIONS FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

The Board of Education accepts the Alyssa’s Law Grant 2020-2021 allocation for the 2020-2021 school year as follows:

GRANT: \$ 58,079

1. ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION – CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY – REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

That the Board of Education accepts the donation of \$100,000 from the City of South Amboy Redevelopment Agency to purchase Chromebooks to advance the District’s One-to-One Initiative.

1. USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES/ SOUTH AMBOY – SAYREVILLE ROTARY CLUB

That the Board of Education approves the request of the South Amboy-Sayreville Rotary Club to use the Middle/High School Parking Lot on 9/20/20 (9/27/20 Rain Date) from 10am to 3pm, unless the facilities are otherwise being used by the district. This activity will be covered by their insurance. There is no cost for the Use of Facilities for this activity

Mr. Conrad thanks City, Board and Superintendent for item 38, notes cooperation with City and importance of initiative. Mr. Diaz agrees, expresses support for initiative and working relationship with City on this issue. Mr. Conrad asks about 37 and sufficiency of grant amount. Mr. Diaz responds, notes we are now Alyssa Law compliant and "panic button" availability.

Mrs. Kasics asks about OOD students and their reopening plans. Mr. Diaz responded. Mrs. Kasics about Rotary club use, Mr. Conrad responds. Mrs. Kasics about Frog Hollow yearbook signing. Mr. Diaz responds that this information is not for public.

Mrs. Taggart asks about expenses in #28 (Carousel, Kids Hub, Dr. McCabe). Also asks about Chromebooks re: #38 (is it bid, who won bid, how much, etc.). Mr. Diaz responds. Mr. Conrad notes technological upgrades and reimbursements. Mr. Walsh asks about bidding as well for Chromebooks. Mr. Silvestro responds regarding use of State contract and procurement process.

1. APPROVE/FIELD TRIP #MHS-21001

HIB Reports

HIB – 2018-19 Grades Report
(Posted on the district website)

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY MOTIONS AND OTHER ITEMS

1. Mina Hostess – Covid-19. Daily temperature checks? 14-day isolation? Contact notice? How are you going to address this? Superintendent Response: All steps to be taken are in the plan and Board policies. Four certified contact-tracers will be utilized and will coordinate with Dept. Of Health on notice and quarantine. Mr. Silvestro notes that re-opening is required to open for in-
2. Erin Mulligan - Does not seem to be half of students based on A/B schedule. Why homeroom then classes? Who's cleaning? How were parents on re-entry team selected? Why not more? Inclusion students need more. Need more specificity in plans. Need option to switch back and forth between virtual and in-person. Superintendent Response: I have answers for all of these, ask that these be emailed to me. Mr. Conrad and Mr. Diaz discuss some responses.
3. Laurie Guthrie, 318 South Pine Ave. - Has concerns about split-day schedule. Why hybrid? How are teachers are expected to teach both and protect privacy and monitoring kids? How custodians to clean everything in-between classes? Superintendent Response: Discusses Google Meet procedures, cleaning procedures and split-day schedule survey choices and impact. Mr. Walsh asks that e-mail from Ms. Mulligan be sent to him as well.
4. Laurie Guthrie - Asks about schedule survey and split. Also asks about symptom check and cleaning by teachers. Superintendent Responds.
5. Meredith Woods - Asks about HS kids, switching classes and cleaning. Didn't re-survey parents after Gov. offered virtual option. Superintendent: Cleaning happening throughout the day. Desktops being cleaned before end of period.
6. Julie Lambert - Church Street. Test-run cleaning going to be done? Extension of time to decide virtual instruction? Mr. Silvestro addresses transition option plan requirements/Road Back. Superintendent Responds as well.
7. Stephanie Mollett 283 Raritan Street - Asks about special education instruction and related services. Superintendent Responds.
8. Christine Shannon. - Question regarding student face shields. Superintendent responds, not required to use face shields, just covering/mask.
9. Stephanie Mollett - asking about why parents of kids who fail aren't told about summer school.
10. Mae Schaeffer - Minutes for prior board meeting. District policy re: bias. Should faculty be teaching opinion as fact. Mr. Silvestro and Mr. Conrad respond.
11. "Chris from Middlesex County." Addresses Mr. Diaz regarding Carteret matters.
12. Jennifer Williams, 3rd Grade Teacher at ES - Concerned about new reading program (Fountas and Pinnell) during pandemic. Mrs. Taggart and Mr. Walsh agree. Dr. Gurczeski responds. Mrs. Taggart and Ms. Conway and Mr. Conrad ask questions. Dr. Gurczski responds.
13. Erin Mulligan – Again discusses parents on reentry committee. Superintendent responds (chosen by principals). Mr. Diaz stated that if it were up to him he would open all remote.
14. Brian Murphy. Cannot fathom how Governor is requiring us to reopen. Daughter would choose reopening. Mr. Diaz responds.

15. Erin Mulligan. Who is the parent from the middle school that was on the committee? Mr. Diaz responds that he doesn't know.

APPROVE ALL ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Mr. Conrad and seconded by Mrs. Taggart to approve of the consent agenda of the regular public meeting of July 27, 2020 as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Ayes: Albaran, Conrad, Conway, Dragotta, Gonzalez, Kasics, Taggart, Walsh
Nays: Gonzalez (2,3), Taggart (2,3), Walsh (2,3)
Abstention: Kasics (31)
Absent: McLaughlin

A. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

N/A

B. BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMENTS

1. Mr. Walsh - Thinks parents of students who fail should be notified of summer options. Thanks public for questions and notes his email is always open. Thanks re-opening committee and everyone for their work.
2. Ms. Conway - Thanks everyone for how things are coming together so quickly with respect to re-opening plan. Thanks Mr. Diaz for everything since he's come on as Superintendent.
3. Mr. Dragotta - Thanks everyone; Members, staff and parents. Meeting was very informative. Going to be a tough year. Thanks for hard work.
4. Mrs. Taggart - Thanks everyone on reopening committee, but can we do an in-person meeting in August? Mrs. Gonzalez and Mr. Walsh support this request. Discussion with Mr. Conrad, Mr. Diaz re: same. Mr. Silvestro comments re: same.
5. Mr. Conrad comments re: QSAC passing. Thanks Mr. Diaz.
6. Mr. Diaz echoes comments re: productive meeting. Apologizes for comments by the Edison man. Thanks volunteers for re-opening committee. Thanks union presidents.
7. Mr. Walsh - re: QSAC, was there a final score yet? Mr. Diaz responds that last year was interim review. This year we got around 80/81 for instruction. Everything else near perfect. Waiting for official scores.

C. ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Mr. Walsh and seconded by Mrs. Conway that there being no further business the meeting be adjourned at 10:08 pm. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Frascella

Business Administrator/Board Secretary