

SOUTH AMBOY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Business/Public Meeting Agenda May 24, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.
(open Meeting & immediately go into Executive/Closed Session)
Public Meeting Agenda begins at approximately 6:30 P.M.
Virtual Meeting: (Call 732-447-9901, then enter the access code 826077)

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

Mr. Frascella, called the roll:

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

Absent: None

Also Present: Peter Frascella, Board Secretary; Jorge E. Diaz, Superintendent; Mr. Silvestro, Board Attorney; Mr. Mercado, Student Representative

On a motion by Mr. Conrad and seconded by Mr. Walsh that the Board adjourned into Closed Session at 6:05 pm. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Frascella 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 Mr. Conrad and seconded by Mrs. Taggart that the Board reconvened into the public portion of the meeting at 6:50 pm. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Frascella 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. Walsh led all assembled in the Flag Salute.

- **Covid & Graduation Updates (Jorge. Diaz, Superintendent)**
- **MHS Annual School Plan Update & Recognition (Mr. Frank Zalocki)**

Mr. Walsh Stated that the district will return to in person Board Meeting starting on June 28th. There will also be a virtual (call-in) option for that meeting.

MINUTES**1. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

April 26, 2021

Business-Public Meeting ([Attachment](#))

April 26, 2021

Closed Session/Business Meeting

EDUCATION & CURRICULUM ITEMS & REPORT (Joan Conway)

Ms. Conway discussed the Curriculum and Instruction Committee Meeting including topics of Opening Day 2021-2022 school year, diversity and equity issues and education in the schools.

2. CURRICULUM REVISION/2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

That the Board of Education approve the following revised curriculum subject area for the 2021-2022 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent.

- [Elementary Music K-2](#)

2A. REVISION OF 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR TO INCLUDE MAY 28, 2021 AS A DAY OFF

That the Board of Education approves the revision to the 2020-2021 school year to include May 28th as a Holiday in which school is closed.

POLICY ITEMS & REPORT (Rafael Albarran)

~None~

PERSONNEL (Lynn Kasics)**3. REHIRE OF NON-TENURED PERSONNEL**

That the Board of Education approves the reemployment of the attached list of non-tenured personnel for the 2021-2022 school year as presented and as recommended by the Superintendent. Salaries and steps will reflect negotiated agreements with the Board of Education. [2021-2022 Non-Tenure Staff List \(as of May 24, 2021\)](#)

4. REHIRE OF NON-TENURED FULL-TIME/PART-TIME PARAPROFESSIONAL STAFF, PART-TIME/FULL-TIME CUSTODIAN/MAINTENANCE STAFF AND OTHER STAFF LISTED

That the Board of Education approves the reemployment of non-tenured full-time/part-time paraprofessional staff, part-time/full-time custodian/maintenance staff and other staff listed for the 2021-2022 school year as presented and as recommended by the Superintendent. Salaries and steps will be as reflected in the negotiated agreement between the Board of Education and the South Amboy Education Association. [2021-2022 Staff List \(as of May 24, 2021\)](#)

5. PERSONNEL FOR EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR (ESY)/SUMMER 2021

That the Board of Education approves the appointment of the following individuals to serve the students enrolled in the district's Extended School Year program as recommended by the Superintendent. The program will run from July 5, 2021 through July 29, 2021 Mondays through Thursdays from 8:45 A.M. to 12:00 Noon. Rate of pay will be as reflected in the negotiated agreement between the Board of Education and the South Amboy Education Association:

NURSE MHS:	Cathy Housman
NURSE ES:	Lisa McAlonie
PARAPROFESSIONAL:	Jessica English-Honimar, Gina Martinez, Alyssa Consentino
ELEMENTARY TEACHERS:	Callan Conklin, Marcia Mercado
GRADE 8 TEACHER:	Grace Amari
CREDIT RECOVERY:	Chelsea Russell

6. PERSONNEL FOR SUMMER ENRICHMENT CAMP/SUMMER 2021

That the Board of Education approves the appointment of the following individuals to serve as summer camp instructors for the district's Summer Enrichment Camp program as recommended by the Superintendent. Rate of pay will be \$35.00 per hour for certified teachers, and \$20.00 for non-certificated staff. Camps will run for 1 or 2 weeks throughout the Summer.

Andrew Cooper	History of Rock & Roll
Julieanne Jimenez	Intro to American Sign Language (ASL)
Marissa Krull	Arts, Crafts, and Outside Fun
Patti Rolzhausen	Musical Theater Dance & Movement
Kelly Trzeciak	Fun and Fitness
Shaina Mentzel	Art of Tie Dye (Co-Instructor)
Jessica Costantino	Art of Tie Dye (Co-Instructor)

7. APPROVE/LAUREN STRUMWASSER

That the Board of Education approves Lauren Strumwasser as an Extended School Year Program Coordinator for the summer of 2021, as recommended by the Superintendent. A \$2500 stipend will be paid for this position.

8. APPROVE/GUIDANCE COUNSELOR/MADELINE RONDON

That the Board of Education approves the employment of Madeline Rondon as a Guidance Counselor in the Middle High School for the 2021-2022 school year, effective July 1, 2021 until June 30, 2022 as recommended by the Superintendent. Her salary (MA, Step 1), plus 10% for 11-month employee, with benefits, 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 History Background Check (Policy #4111/4211) and Physicals for Employees (Policy #4212.4).

9. APPROVE/GUIDANCE COUNSELOR/DAVID LISOWSKI

That the Board of Education approves the employment of David Lisowski as a Guidance Counselor in the Middle High School for the 2021-2022 school year effective July 1, 2021 until June 30, 2022 as recommended by the Superintendent. His salary (MA, Step 4), plus 10% for 11-month employee, with benefits, 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 History Background Check (Policy #4111/4211) and Physicals for Employees (Policy #4212.4).

10. MATERNITY LEAVE & FMLA/CORIN EVERETT

That the Board of Education approves the Maternity/Child Rearing Leave of Absence for Corin Everett, Teacher at the Elementary School, during the 2021-2022 school year effective

September 1, 2021 until September 29, 2021; Unpaid FMLA September 30, 2021 until December 22, 2021, as recommended by the Superintendent.

11. APPROVE/GEETA NISRAIYYA

That the Board of Education approves Geeta Nisrayiyya to revise the following curriculum subject areas for the 2021-2022 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent.

- Physics
- Chemistry

12. APPROVE/JENNIFER JAMISON

That the Board of Education approves Jennifer Jamison as a full-time Custodian for the 2021-2022 school year, (Step A), as recommended by the Superintendent.

13. APPROVE/SUSPENSION/EMPLOYEE #4171

That the Board of Education approves the suspension of employee #4171, effective May 24, 2021 through May 26, 2021 as recommended by the Superintendent.

BUDGET AND FINANCE ITEMS & REPORT

14. BUDGETARY TRANSFERS ([Attachment](#))

The Board of Education approves the attached transfers for April 2021 in conjunction with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8-1 and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10.

15. EXPENDITURES FOR 04/27/21 - 05/24/21 ([Attachment](#))

The Board of Education approves the following expenditures for 04/27/21 - 05/24/21

**South Amboy Board of Education
Expenditures 4/27/2021 - 5/24/2021**

Bills For	Amount
Regular Bills	\$471,781.77
4/15/21 Payroll	\$479,299.39
4/30/21 Payroll	\$490,030.28
TOTAL	\$1,441,111.44
April Agency	\$579,172.75

16. ACCEPT THE SECRETARY AND TREASURER REPORT – APRIL 2021 ([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-1.10 (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.

17. ACCEPT THE APRIL 2021 ORGANIZATIONAL FUND BALANCES [\(Attachment\)](#)

The Board of Education accepts the attached April 2021 Organizational Fund Balances.

18. ACCEPT THE APRIL 2021 ATHLETIC FUND BALANCES [\(Attachment\)](#)

The Board of Education accepts the attached April 2021 Athletic Fund Balances.

19. FIELD TRIP REQUESTS

The Board of Education approves the attached field trip requests for the 2020-2021 school year as recommended by the Superintendent.

20. APPROVE THE SUBMITTAL OF SAFETY GRANT THROUGH NJSIG

That the Board of Education approves the Submittal of the Safety Grant through NJSIG in the amount of \$8,584.

21. RESOLUTION FOR FOOD SERVICE MANAGEMENT RENEWAL/ADDENDUM AGREEMENT 2021-2022

The Board of Education adopts the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the City of South Amboy, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, has determined the need for Food Service Management for the 2021-2022 fiscal year, and

WHEREAS, funds are available for this purpose, and

WHEREAS, the conditions of the Public School Contract Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5a (22) have been met, **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education of the City of South Amboy, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey is hereby authorized and directed to renew a contract for food service management with Maschio’s Food Services for the 2021-2022 school year for \$21,000. (Management Fee); Maschio’s Food Services guarantees an unlimited return to the South Amboy Board of Education in the amount of \$21,000.

22. APPROVE LUNCH PRICES FOR 2021-2022

That the Board of Education approves the following lunch prices for the 2021-2022 school year as mandated by *Section 205 of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010*:

Student Elementary School Pattern Lunch:	\$3.25
Student Elementary School Pattern Breakfast:	\$1.60
Student Middle/High School Pattern Lunch:	\$3.45
Student Middle/High School Pattern Breakfast:	\$1.85
Adult Pattern Lunch (All Schools)	\$4.25
Adult Pattern Breakfast (All Schools)	\$3.25

23. APPROVAL OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT – BUSCH LAW GROUP

The Board of Education approves a Professional Services Agreement between the South Amboy Board of Education and The Busch Law Group as the Board Attorney for the period July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 at a rate of \$170/hour. (Copy of contract is on file in the Board Office).

24. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION FOR PARTICIPATION IN COORDINATED TRANSPORTATION – ESCNJ

The Board of Education approves the agreement between the South Amboy Board of Education and the ESCNJ to provide Coordinated Transportation Services for the 2021-2022 school year.

25. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION FOR INSTRUCTIONAL AIDE - ESCNJ

The Board of Education approves the agreement between the South Amboy Board of Education and the ESCNJ to provide Raquel Connor, Instructional Aide for the 2021-2022 school year at a salary of \$21,256.

26. APPROVAL OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT – THERAPY SOURCE

The Board of Education approves a Professional Services Agreement between the South Amboy Board of Education and Therapy Source to provide educational therapy services for the period July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. (Copy of contract is on file in the Board Office).

27. APPROVAL OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT – LC EDUCATION CONSULTANTS

The Board of Education approves a Professional Services Agreement between the South Amboy Board of Education and LC Education Consultants to provide BCBA ESY services for the period July 6, 2021 to July 29, 2021. (Copy of contract is on file in the Board Office).

28. ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION - GARY PELKEY

That the Board of Education approves the acceptance of the donation of 17 cases of 9 packs of Lysol Disinfecting Wipes by Mr. Gary Pelkey. The items have an estimated value of \$680.00.

29. ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION - 1800SHIELDS

That the Board of Education approves the acceptance of the donation of 400 face shields (300 adult size and 100 child size) by 1800Shields. The items have an estimated value of \$880.00.

OTHER MOTIONS

30. REPRESENTATIVE/REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION OF NEW JERSEY

That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Jorge E. Diaz, Superintendent of Schools, as representative to the Representative Assembly of the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022.

HIB Reports

31. AFFIRM HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION & BULLYING (HIB) INCIDENT REPORT 2021

That the Board of Education affirms the Harassment, Intimidation & Bullying (HIB) Incident Report for HIB incidents reported to the Board of Education. [HIB Memo for May 2021](#)

ATHLETICS REPORT (Brian Murphy)

Mr. Murphy discussed senior nights for both softball and baseball. Talked about scholar athletes awards for the district. He also addressed Prom and ways to bolster GMC events going forward.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS REPORT (Peter Frascella)

Mr. Frascella discussed the Buildings & Grounds Meeting for May where there were discussions on the custodial and maintenance work done during the month. Also discussions took place regarding HVAC issues at both schools and how the district was handling the increased traffic in the schools due to many students returning to five days a week.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY MOTIONS OR OTHER ITEMS (PRESS 5* TO MAKE A COMMENT)

“Boards use the public comment period as an opportunity to listen to citizen concerns, but not to debate issues or enter into a question-and-answer session or a ‘cross-examination’ between the public and individual members. Be aware that not all issues brought before a board meeting will be resolved that evening; boards may respond to public comment by seeking additional information or by delegating the authority to investigate the issue to the superintendent or his/her designee.” [NJSBA](#)

Members of the public are limited to one (1) three (3) minute opportunity to address the board during the Public Comment portion of the meeting. Remaining time is not transferable to other members of the public. (Policy/By-Law 9322)

Erin Mulligan – Pierre – Thanked the Board for going back to in-person Meetings. Concerns regarding students not eating in schools. Where are the updates to the district’s re-entry plan and FAQ. Questions regarding Secretary to the BA and Director of Early Childhood Education. Commented on the Superintendent’s goals and asked what the cost was to the district for the district App.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Murphy – Explained that at the last meeting he asked the policy committee to review the public hearing portion of the policy on the agenda last month and nothing new was presented. He stated that he wanted the meetings to go back to the way they were in person where there is public comment after every part of the agenda.

Mr. Walsh – Explained the policy and motion and then spoke about how typical public comments are addressed at Board Meetings.

Mr. Conrad – Asked if Mr. Murphy could clarify exactly what he wanted the policy to reflect.

Mr. Murphy – Stated that it may not be typical but we are here for the community and we should give them the opportunity to speak.

Mrs. Taggart – Agreed with Mr. Murphy that the additional public comments had been done in the past.

Mr. Walsh – Explained that one of the major jobs of the Board is to create and follow policies. Although this may have been done in the past, he is now the President and wants to make sure that we are following our polices as currently written.

Ms. Conway – Explained that the policy committee did consider what Mr. Murphy asked them to consider but in the end they did not think that the change was warranted.

On a Motion by Mr. Murphy and a second by Mrs. Taggart that the Board of Education present a policy for a first reading to include a three minute (per person) public comment after every section of the agenda.

Ayes: Murphy, Taggart,
Nays: Albarran, Conrad, Conway, Dragotta, Gutrie, Kasics, Walsh
Abstention: None
Absent: None

APPROVE ALL ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Mr. Walsh and seconded by Mr. Conrad to approve of the consent agenda of the regular public meeting of May 24, 2021 as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Ayes: Albarran, Conrad, Conway, Dragotta, Gutrie, Kasics, Murphy, Taggart, Walsh
Nays: Guthrie (#11), Murphy (#3 – F.Z.)
Abstention: Murphy (#21), Taggart (#1)
Absent: None

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Mr. Mercado discussed upcoming athletics events, Prom and graduation. Thanked the custodial staff for keeping the buildings clean and safe for everyone. Expressed thanks to the staff and Board from the Seniors.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Conrad – Congratulated Mr. Mercado on his acceptance into Seton Hall.

Mr. Murphy – Condolences to Mrs. Taggart. Thanked Mr. Mercado for his time as student rep and wished everyone a Happy Memorial Day.

Mrs. Guthrie – Thanked everyone for all their support and the staff for all their hard work. Thanked Mr. Zalocki for his work on the ASP.

Mrs. Taggart – Thanked Board and staff and others for reaching out with their condolences. She thanked staff for a great year.

Mr. Albarran – Recognized the track team and coach for a great season.

Mr. Dragotta – Thanked students for putting up with a difficult year. Commends kids for making it through.

Ms. Conway – Thanked everyone for their involvement with the district this school year.
Mrs. Kasics – Congratulated Everyone. Looking forward to seeing people's faces again.

Mr. Conrad – Congratulated all our students and looking forward to the graduations for fifth, eighth, and twelfth grade in a few weeks.

Mr. Walsh – Wished his best to everyone. It was a difficult year for everyone. Congratulated senior athletes, Ms. Whitely for being next student representative. Congratulated the track team and thanked teachers on teacher appreciation week.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Mr. Walsh and seconded by Mr. Murphy that there being no further business the meeting be adjourned at 8:33 pm. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully,

Peter Frascella

Peter Frascella
Board Secretary