

**SOUTH AMBOY BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Business/Public Meeting Agenda November 28, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.**  
**(open Meeting & immediately go into Executive/Closed Session)**  
**Public Meeting Agenda begins at approximately 6:30 P.M.**  
**Middle High School Cafeteria**

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**Mr. Conrad, Board Vice President called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.**

**Mr. Frascella, called the roll:**

Present: Mr. Conrad, Ms. Conway, Mr. Dragotta, Mrs. Guthrie, Ms. Kasics, Ms. Kern, Mr. Murphy,

Absent: Mr. Albarran

Also Present: Peter Frascella, Board Secretary; Dr. Frederick D. Williams Superintendent; Mr. Silvestro, Board Attorney; Ms. Perez, Student Representative

On a motion by Mr. Dragotta and seconded by Mr. Conrad that the Board adjourned into Closed Session at 6:32 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. Kasics and seconded by Mr. Dragotta that the Board reconvened into the public portion of the meeting at 7:40 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. Conrad led all assembled in the Flag Salute.**

**Presentations:**

- DEI Presentation - Dr. Tonya Leslie

**A. CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED IN OPEN PUBLIC**

- Interview Questions were asked to each of the candidates by Mr. Conrad

Mr. Silvestro introduced the Board Vacancy interview process. The candidates will be interviewed in the following order:

1. Mrs. Judith L. Raskoshin, M.Ed
2. Ana Yvette Moreira

### **Adjourn to Executive Session**

On a motion by Mr. Murphy and seconded by Ms. Kern, the board adjourns into Closed Session at 8:10 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Frascella reads the closed session notice:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, pursuant to the Sunshine Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 and 13, the South Amboy Board of Education will now meet in closed session to discuss: Board Vacancy

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. Kern and seconded by Mr. Murphy that the Board reconvened into the public portion of the meeting at 8:45 pm. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Motion was made by Mrs. Kasics and second by Ms. Kern to open nominations to fill the Board Vacancy. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Kasics nominates Judith Raskoshin to fill the vacancy and serve on the Board of Education until December 31, 2023. Second by Ms. Kern:

Ayes: Conrad, Conway, Dragotta, Guthrie, Kasics, Kern  
Nays: None  
Abstention: Murphy  
Absent: Albarran

Mrs. Judith Raskoshin was selected to fill the vacant Board seat.

### **Nomination & Election of Officers for the Duration of 2022 Term**

Mr. Conrad, Board Vice President calls for the following nominations:

- A. Board President

Mr. Murphy nominated Mrs. Kasics.

Hearing no further nominations, Mr. Conrad calls for a motion to close the nominations.

Motion by Ms. Kern seconded by Mr. Murphy to close nominations for Board President. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Conrad declares the nominations for President to be closed.

Motion by Ms. Kern seconded by Mr. Murphy for Mrs. Kasics to be the newly elected Board President.

Ayes: Conrad, Conway, Dragotta, Guthrie, Kasics, Kern, Murphy  
 Nays: None  
 Abstention: None  
 Absent: Albarran

Mrs. Kasics took her seat as Board President.

**MINUTES**

**1. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

October 17, 2022 Business-Public Meeting ([Minutes 10.17.22](#))  
 October 17, 2022 Closed Session/Business Meeting

**EDUCATION & CURRICULUM ITEMS & REPORT (Joan Conway)**

Ms. Conway discussed NJQSAC, curriculum surveys, Naviance, course offerings and other programs discussed at the Curriculum and Instruction Committee Meeting.

**2. APPROVAL OF SUBMISSION OF THE NEW JERSEY QUALITY SINGLE ACCOUNTABILITY CONTINUUM (NJQSAC) DISTRICT PERFORMANCE REVIEW (DPR)**

That the Board of Education approves the submission of the New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) District Performance Review (DPR), as presented, and as recommended by the Superintendent.

**3. APPROVE SUBMISSION OF ANNUAL PRESCHOOL PLAN**

That the Board of Education approves the submission of the Annual Preschool Plan to the Division of Early Childhood Services.

**4. APPROVE CLINICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM-SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY**

On the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education approves the contract between Sacred Heart University and the South Amboy Board of Education to partner in a Clinical Education Program effective upon approval of this contract.

**POLICY ITEMS & REPORT (Lynn Kasics)**

**5. APPROVE MOU WITH SOUTH AMBOY POLICE DEPARTMENT**

That the Board of Education approves the MOU between the South Amboy Police Department and South Amboy Board of Education.

**6. 2022-2023 Emergency Action Plan**

That the Board of Education approves the Emergency Action Plan for the 22-23 school year.

**PERSONNEL (Lynn Kasics)**

**7. RESCIND RESIGNATION/2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR**

That the Board of Education rescinds the resignation of Anna Mae O'Connor effective November 4, 2022 as recommended by the Superintendent.

**8. CREATE POSITION-HUMAN RESOURCES SECRETARY**

**9. APPROVE JOB DESCRIPTION-HUMAN RESOURCES SECRETARY**

**10. ACTING MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL**

That the Board of Education approves extending the contract of Dr. Mario Barbieri as Acting Middle/High School Principal, until December 2, 2022.

**11. ACTING MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL**

That the Board of Education approves Dr. Martin Gurczeski as Acting Middle/High School Principal, effective November 14, 2022 at a per diem stipend of \$150 per day.

**12. APPOINTMENTS CONTRACTUAL**

<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Bldg.</b>	<b>Total Salary</b>	<b>Effective</b>
Colon (M. Witte)	Christine	MHS School Counselor	MHS	\$64,112 Prorated w/ benefits Step 2 MA	1/30/2023
Gemellarro (M. Fincke)	Alyssa	Leave Replacement	ES	\$60,612 Prorated w/o benefits Step 1 BA	11/14/2022
Lescano (New Position)	Roberlandy	Technology Manager	District	\$115,000 Prorated	1/1/2023
Lewis (J. Chiles)	Clara	Security Guard	MHS	\$30,000 Prorated w/ benefits	11/16/2022
Vega (L.Lewis)	Elyssa	Health/PE Teacher	MHS	\$64,712 Prorated w/ benefits Step 7 BA	1/30/2023

\* Fingerprints approved through NJDOE Office of Student Protection (Policy #4111/4211)  
 \* Completion of Physicals for Employees (Policy #4212.4)  
 \* Pending approval of NJDOE Office of Student Protection and Employment History statute P.L.2018, C.5

**13. SUBSTITUTES**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position/Certification</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Effective</b>
Braine, Caitlin	Substitute Teacher (As Needed)	\$130/Daily	11/29/2022-6/21/2023

\* Fingerprints approved through NJDOE Office of Student Protection  
 \* Pending approval of NJDOE Office of Student Protection and Employment History statute P.L.2018, C.5

**14. EXTRACURRICULAR/STIPEND**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Stipend</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Effective</b>
Agosto, Thannya	District Translator	\$26.60/Hourly	2022-2023
Amari, Grace	Extended Day (MHS)	\$54.00/Hourly	11/01/2022
Haney, Jacob	Gay Straight Alliance Club (MHS)	\$515.00	2022-2023
Harduby, George	Extended Day (MHS)	\$54.00/Hourly	11/16/2022
Robinson, Brittany	Extended Day (MHS)	\$54.00/Hourly	11/01/2022
Schipske, Kelsey	Extended Day (MHS)	\$54.00/Hourly	11/01/2022
Smocovich, Diane	Extended Day (MHS)	\$54.00/Hourly	11/01/2022
Stratton, Phyllis	Extended Day (MHS)	\$54.00/Hourly	11/01/2022
Yuan, Chester	Extended Day (MHS)	\$54.00/Hourly	11/16/2022

**15. LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Effective</b>
Donoghue, Olivia	Paraprofessional	ES	Paid Medical Unpaid FMLA	4/3/2023-5/2/2023 5/3/2023-10/3/2023
Heiry, Thomas	School Psychologist	District	Medical	Revised 9/1/2022-10/14/2022
Loizos, Kristen	Self Contained Teacher Gr. K/1/2	ES	Paid Medical Unpaid FMLA	4/3/2023-5/24/2023 5/25/2023-6/30/2023
Masella, Michelle	School Counselor	ES	Paid Medical Unpaid	Revised 11/1/2022-11/14/2022 11/15/2022- 11/30/2022
McCabe, Patrick	Principal	MHS	Medical	10/27/22-12/31/2022
Palmeri, Colleen	Teacher of Art	MHS	Paid Medical Unpaid FMLA	Revised 9/1/2022-11/15/2022 11/16/2022-1/30/2023
Robbins, Christine	Director of Curriculum & Instruction/PPS	District	Medical	11/23/2022-1/2/2023
Wolfe, Amy	Secretary	ES	Medical	9/26/2022-TBD

Zeller, Alanna	Learning Consultant	ES	Medical	3/6/2023-6/30/2023
* Dates to be adjusted based upon recovery				

**16. END OF SERVICE**

Name	Position	School	Category	Last Day
Bakos, Justin	Teacher of Mathematics	MHS	Resignation	1/13/2023
Costantino, Jessica	Paraprofessional	ES	Resignation	10/31/2022
McCabe, Patrick	Principal	MHS	Retirement	12/31/2022
Sanchez-Escamilla, Nidia	Spanish Teacher	MHS	Resignation	12/23/2022

**17. STAFF TRANSFERS**

Name	Position	From	To	Effective
O'Connor, Anna Mae (Wolfe)	Secretary	Child Study Team Office	Secretary Leave Replacement (Elementary School)	11/14/2022

**18. VOLUNTEER POSITIONS**

Name	Position	School	Effective
Norek, Caitlin	Volunteer Girls Basketball Coach	MHS	2022-2023

**BUDGET AND FINANCE ITEMS & REPORT (Anthony Conrad)**

**19. BUDGETARY TRANSFERS ([Attachment A](#))**

The Board of Education approves the attached transfers for October 2022 in conjunction with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8-1 and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10.

**20. EXPENDITURES FOR 10/18/2022-11/28/2022 ([Attachment B](#)) – PO #230510 Tabled**

The Board of Education approves the following expenditures for 10/18/2022-11/28/2022

<b>South Amboy Board of Education Expenditures 10/18/2022-11/28/2022</b>	
Bills For	Amount
Regular Bills	\$ 1,165,767.80
10/15/2022 Payroll	\$ 552,683.80

10/30/2022 Payroll	\$ 536,098.19
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,254,549.79</b>
October Agency	\$ 553,641.00

- 21. ACCEPT THE SECRETARY AND TREASURER REPORT –OCTOBER 2022** [\(Attachment C\)](#)  
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.
- 22. ACCEPT THE OCTOBER 2022 ORGANIZATIONAL FUND BALANCES** [\(Attachment D\)](#)  
The Board of Education accepts the attached October 2022 Organizational Fund Balance.
- 23. ACCEPT THE OCTOBER 2022 ATHLETIC FUND BALANCES** [\(Attachment E\)](#)  
The Board of Education accepts the attached October 2022 Athletic Fund Balances
- 24. FIELD TRIP REQUESTS** [\(Attachment F\)](#)  
The Board of Education approves the attached field trip requests for the 2022-2023 school year as recommended by the Superintendent.
- 25. 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
Eleni Tsoukas	2/14/23	Helping ELLs Become More Successful Reading	\$279	20-270-200-300-01-00-00-060
Eleni Tsoukas	5/23/23-5/25/23	NJTESOL	\$575	20-270-200-300-01-00-00-060
Lauren Strumwasser Corin Duffy	12/14/22	The Zones of Regulation	\$220/Each	20-270-200-300-01-00-00-060

- 26. APPROVAL OF TUITION CONTRACT FOR 2022-2023 – ESCNJ – PISCATAWAY REGIONAL DAY SCHOOL**

The Board of Education approves tuition contract between the South Amboy Board of Education and ESCNJ Piscataway Regional Day School for student #3944564593 for the period September 19, 2022 – June 30, 2023 in the amount of \$46,205. (Copy of contract is on file in the Board Office).

**27. APPROVAL OF TUITION CONTRACT FOR 2022-2023– ESCNJ – CENTER FOR LIFELONG LEARNING**

The Board of Education approves tuition contract between the South Amboy Board of Education and ESCNJ Center for Lifelong Learning for student #7426217205, for the period October 17, 2022 – June 30, 2023 in the amount of \$50,718. (Copy of contract is on file in the Board Office)

**28. APPROVAL OF SERVICE CONTRACT FOR 2022-2023 – N.J. COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND**

The Board of Education approves the service contract between the South Amboy Board of Education and N.J. Commission for the Blind for student #5728707728, for the period of November 3, 2022 – June 30, 2023 in the total amount of \$1,743. (Copy of contract is on file in the Board Office)

**29. ACCEPTANCE OF 2021-2022 TUITION CONTRACT - RUTGERS UBHC**

That the Board of Education approves the 2021-22 tuition contract from Rutgers UBHC for student #2475544946 from September 15, 2021 to June 30, 2022 in the amount of \$92,172.

**30. APPROVAL OF CONTRACT FOR AIDES - ESCNJ**

That the Board of Education approves the contract from the Educational Service Commission of New Jersey for one (1) full-time, 1:1 aide, in the amount of \$32,560 and three (3) part-time classroom aides working 29.9 hours per week.

**31. APPROVAL OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICE - SOLIANT**

That the Board of Education approves Soliant to provide the district with 1:1 Nursing Services. This contract has a not to exceed amount of \$100,000.

**32. USE OF FACILITIES REQUEST - SAHS BASEBALL/RILEY RONE SCHOLARSHIP (TOUCH-A-TRUCK)**

That the Board of Education approves the Use of Facilities Request for the Touch-A-Truck event in the High School Parking Lot on May 7, 2023 (May 21, 2023 - Rain Date) from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Event is exempt from usage fee.

**33. 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.

**33A. ACCEPTANCE OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

That the Board of Education approve the settlement agreement in the matters of M.M. and M.M. o/b/o S.M. v. South Amboy Bd. of Educ., EDS 07231-2022, and South Amboy Bd. of Educ. v. M.M. and M.M. o/b/o S.M., EDS 05602-2022.

**OTHER MOTIONS**

**34. AFFIRM HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION & BULLYING (HIB) INCIDENT REPORT**

That the Board of Education affirms the Harassment, Intimidation & Bullying (HIB) Incident



Report for HIB incidents reported to the Board of Education. ([HIB Report-November](#))

### **ATHLETICS REPORT (Brian Murphy)**

Mr. Murphy discussed the end of the fall sports season, Girls soccer team sportsmanship award, Boys soccer, winter sports registration, and the Friends of South Amboy Charity Basketball game.

### **BUILDINGS & GROUNDS REPORT (Laurie Guthrie)**

Mrs. Guthrie discussed the work being completed at each building including HVAC, cleaning, and the sidewalk repaving at the Elementary School.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY MOTIONS OR OTHER ITEMS**

“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)

Sean Dunphy – Congratulated the winners of Teacher of the Year and Educational Special of the Year at each building.

Patrick Walsh – Congratulated Ms. Raskoshin on her selection to the Board. He also congratulated Mrs. Kasics on becoming Board President, and Mr. Conrad for being elected to City Council.

Veronica Zarella – Music teacher at the MHS, discussed the Winter Open house, the Tree Lighting, and the Winter Concert all taking place over the course of the next couple of weeks.

### **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

**None**

### **APPROVE ALL ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Mr. Conrad and seconded by Mr. Dragotta to approve of the consent agenda of the regular public meeting of November 28, 2022 (exceptions) as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Ayes: Conrad, Conway, Dragotta, Guthrie, Kasics, Kern, Murphy

Nays: Guthrie (#12 R.L.) Murphy (#8, #9, #12 R.L.)

Abstention: Kasics (#23), Kern (#20 (230547, 230448, 230378, 230492, 230514, 230512, 230513, 2302158), #23, #26, #27, #30) Murphy (#12 C.C., C.L., E.V.)

Absent: Albarran

### **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

Ms. Lukie – Excited that the district is exploring other potential senior trip locations.

## **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Murphy – Congratulations to Mrs. Raskoshin, and everyone who won the election in November. He also asked about students of the month being announced like in the past.

Mr. Conrad – Asked Ms. Lukie about options for the senior trip. He congratulated Mrs. Raskoshin, Mrs. Kasics, and congratulated the teachers and educational professional of the year.

Ms. Guthrie – Asked Ms. Lukie asked about what some issues were with the senior trip, i.e. cost, location, travel, and asked for some suggestions regarding other destinations.

Mrs. Kasics – Thanked the board for electing her and congratulated Mrs. Raskoshin and her appointment.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion by Ms. Kern and seconded by Mr. Murphy there being no further business the meeting be adjourned at 9:18 pm. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully,

*Peter Frascella*

Peter Frascella  
Board Secretary