

**SECAUCUS BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
DATED: April 11, 2019**

President Cali called the meeting to order at 4:20PM and roll call taken as follows:

PRESENT: Messrs: Bartletta, McStowe, Ms. Cali, Ms. Dellafave, Ms. Eccles, Ms. McFarlane, Ms. O'Connell, Ms. Pantoliano, and Dr. Strobert

LATE ARRIVALS:

ABSENT:

President Cali declared a quorum present

Also present: Jennifer Montesano, Superintendent
Grace Yeo, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Stephen Fogarty, Board Attorney

President Cali, asked everyone to rise and join in the salute to the flag.

In accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meeting Act, Vice President McStowe, announced that the Board Secretary had forwarded notice of this meeting for advertising by having the date, time and place thereof posted in the Secaucus Town Hall, on the bulletin board in the hallway of the Board of Education Administration Building, as well as being provided to the Jersey Journal, and the Bergen Record.

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Jack McStowe

SECONDED BY: Kathy O'Connell

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act allows for the exclusion from discussion as the public portion of a meeting certain matters as outlined below, and

WHEREAS, the Secaucus Board of Education wishes to discuss such matters made and will make such discussion public when a proper conclusion has been reached:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education will hold a Closed Executive Session on this date, in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b (1), (2), (6), (7) and (8) for the purpose(s) as outlined and described below. These matters will be disclosed to the public as soon as the need for confidentiality no longer applies:

Board Members present unanimously adopted the foregoing Resolution.

Motion by Kathy O'Connell, seconded by Ruby Pantoliano, and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to adjourn Executive Session and resume Regular Meeting at 7:15PM.

Motion by Joan Cali, seconded by Mary Eccles, and unanimously adopted by board members present to accept and approve the regular board meeting minutes from March 21, 2019.

Showcase:

Dr. Danielle Garzon – Acting Principal Clarendon School recognized 5th Grade students in Mrs. Smeyers class for their recent win at the Stem Fair. The students honored were: Kaylie Bartletta and Avalyn Torres. Each student was given a Certificate of Achievement.

Organization Reports:

JSA – Luis Guerra –

Candidates were chosen at the recent candidates forum and Zara Ahmed was elected President. Mr. Gehm was named Outstanding Teacher of the Year. Olivia Fox was elected Mid Atlantic State Governor, which is the highest position you can hold and the first in our district to obtain such a high position in JSA.

High School Principal – Steve Viggiani

Mr. Viggiani congratulated all JSA winners, Zara Ahmed, Olivia Fox and Mr. Gehm. Mr. Viggiani stated that the Breakfast with the Easter Bunny was a successful fund raiser and thanked all who supported the event. Upcoming high school events include High School Information night for parents and students in 9th, 10th, and 11th grade on April 16th, on April 17th will be the annual Senior Citizen Spring Fling hosted by the SAIL club and the school play, Mama Mia, will be on April 11, 12, and 13th.

Middle School Principal – Allison Cunniff on behalf of Christine Candela

There were over 100 projects at the recent Middle School Science Fair and the judges were thanked. On March 30, 2019 the Junior Math Club participated in a team competition and placed 3rd. Upcoming events include Middle School Stem Night that will include students and parents participating in a live Engineering Design Contest. Middle School, 8th grade student, Saloni Singh will be participating in the 2019 Scripps Spelling Bee and there will be a field trip to the Liberty Science Center.

Clarendon School Acting Principal – Danielle Garzon

Mrs. Garzon, stated March was a busy and exciting month including the 4th and 5th grade Science Fair, 2nd grade Citizenship Café, a dress down day to benefit Autism Awareness. Upcoming events will include the Drama Club performing at the April PTA meeting. In May there will be the Chorus/Recorder concert, Student testing and Dance Club Performance for the public. Dr.

Garzon also thanked her Administrative Assistants for their hard work in honor of Administrative Assistants Day April 24, 2019.

Huber Street School Principal – Robert Valente

Mr. Valente spoke of the exciting events that had happened in March including a Comedy Show to benefit St Jude’s Children’s Hospital, Annual Author signing day for 3rd grade students that have written their own books. Also, the Easter Bunny visited and the Drama Club performed “Pirates- the Musical”. Upcoming events will include the Academic Bow, Arbor Day Celebration, Science Fair, Teacher Appreciation Day, PARCC Assessment testing, Coast Guard Visit, the Spring Concert and Shark Tank. In honor of Administrative Assistants Day April 24, 2019, Mr. Valente thanked his Administrative Assistants for their hard work.

Superintendent Report:

Ms. Montesano congratulated the JSA students for their newly elected positions and congratulated Mr. Gehm for being named Teach of the Year for JSA. Ms. Montesano then thanked the Mayor and Town Council for their recent donation of lending libraries outside the grammar schools which is a great way to instill the love of reading. She then asked everyone to come out and support the school play “Mama Mia”. She then wished everyone a Happy Passover and Happy Easter.

Recommended action on resolutions and motions to be presented under Committee Reports. Ms. Montesano presented the Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying HIB findings as reported for the period March 22,2019 through April 11, 2019.

Motion by Jack McStowe, seconded by Barbara Strobert and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to accept the report; which is available at the Administrative Offices for review.

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Lance Bartletta	X			
Joan Cali	X			
Sharon Dellafave	X			
Mary Eccles	X			
Kathy McFarlane	X			
John McStowe	X			
Kathy O’Connell	X			
Ruby Pantoliano	X			
Dr. Strobert	X			

Business Administrator/Board Secretary Report:

On behalf of the Superintendent and herself, Ms. Yeo thanked the Administrative Assistants for the hard work and dedication to the district.

Public Agenda Comments:

Committee Reports and New Business

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

1.Human Resources -

R1.01

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Jack McStowe

SECONDED BY: Barbara Strobert

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby appoints the following individual, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools

Cassandra Castro

LTR High School English

Compensation: BA STEP 1 - \$58,959

Effective Date: April 29, 2019 - June 30, 2019

Account Number: 11-140-100-101-000-14-050

UPC: 100.HS.ENGL.HS.14LTR

*Prorated

R1.02

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Jack McStowe

SECONDED BY: Barbara Strobert

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby appoints the following Per Diem Employees for the 2018-2019/SY

Name	Position	Compensation	Comments
Christina M. DeLuca	Substitute Teacher	\$85 per day	
Leanne J. DeSciscio	Substitute Teacher	\$85 per day	

George Martinez	Bus Driver	\$20 per hour	Pending Criminal History/Medical Approval
Luis Moran	Bus Driver	\$20 per hour	Pending Criminal History/Medical Approval
Veronica Rivera	Bus Aide	\$12.54 per hour	Pending Criminal History/Medical Approval

R1.03

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Jack McStowe

SECONDED BY: Barbara Strobert

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby appoints the individuals for curriculum writing at 30 hours each at \$35/hr.

Name	Curriculum
Tiffany Meyer	Health/Drivers Education & Physical Education
Amber Butler	Health/Drivers Education & Physical Education

R1.04

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Jack McStowe

SECONDED BY: Barbara Strobert

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby appoints the following individuals for the 2018-2019/SY

Name	Assignment
Justin Harmke	IT Intern

Alicia Markle	Observation
Leanne Piccini	Student Practicum
Aaron Russo	Observation
Rebecca R. Starace	Student Teacher
Gabriella Vissagio	Observation
Jada White	Observation
Melissa DiLuccio	Observation

R1.05

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Jack McStowe

SECONDED BY: Barbara Strobert

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby appoints teachers to Huber Street School Lunch Duty at \$35/per hour

Teacher
Kerri Stamm
Roxann Hackel

R1.06

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Jack McStowe

SECONDED BY: Barbara Strobert

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby appoints the following teachers to the Middle School Environmental Trip

Teacher
Dylan Caruso

Jeannette Rodriguez

R1.07

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Jack McStowe

SECONDED BY: Barbara Strobert

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby appoints following teachers as mentors for the 2018-2019/SY

Teacher
Tammy Hennessy
Michael Kelly
Roxann Hackel
Donald Somerset
Patricia Smeyers
Roseann Spiekermann
Sharon Holsten
Anna Leppin

R1.08

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Jack McStowe

SECONDED BY: Barbara Strobert

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves to amend the salary of Richard Lacara, Resolution 1.01 from the January 17, 2019 Board of Education meeting from MA Step 1 \$62,654 to BA+30 Step 1 \$61,329

R1.09

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Jack McStowe

SECONDED BY: Barbara Strobert

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves to amend the appointment of Charles Voorhees as Pro Bono JV Coach to a paid coach with a stipend of \$3,662 resolutions R1.08 from the March 21, 2019 Board of Education meeting

R1.10

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Jack McStowe

SECONDED BY: Barbara Strobert

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves to amend the maternity/bonding leave date for employee 5207, Resolution 1.10 from the March 21, 2019 Board of Education meeting from April 4, 2019 to April 1, 2019

R1.11

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY:

SECONDED BY:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves maternity/ bonding leave for the following individual

Employee	School	Date Leave	Return
4961	Middle School	09/01/2019	06/30/2020

R1.12

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Jack McStowe

SECONDED BY: Barbara Strobert

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves to extend bonding leave for the following individual

Employee	School	Date Leave	Return
-----------------	---------------	-------------------	---------------

4738	Middle School	09/01/2019	06/30/2020
------	---------------	------------	------------

R1.13

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Jack McStowe

SECONDED BY: Barbara Strobert

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves accept with regret the resignation of the following individual

Employee	School	Effective
Alison Candusso	Clarendon School	06/30/2019

R1.14

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Jack McStowe

SECONDED BY: Barbara Strobert

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves the 2019-2020 School Calendar

R1.15

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Jack McStowe

SECONDED BY: Barbara Strobert

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves the sidebar agreement between the Secaucus Education Association and the Secaucus Board of Education; agree that Article VIII, Section E, teacher's school year shall begin the second day after Labor Day.

THERE FOR, within the limitations established in this section, the BOARD shall have the right to establish and alter the school calendar as necessary.

WHEREAS the Association agrees that the 2019-2020 School Year will begin on Tuesday, September 3, 2019.

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Jack McStowe

SECONDED BY: Barbara Strobert

WHEREAS, the Secaucus Board of Education (hereafter referred to as the “Board”) conducted a disciplinary hearing on the continued suspension of a student; and

WHEREAS, the student through his counsel did not contest the evidence presented by the Board in support of the charges; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the preponderance of competent and credible evidence supports the disciplinary charges.

BE IT RESOLVED that due to the nature and severity of the offense the Board hereby imposes the following consequences:

1. The student’s long-term suspension shall be continued until April 18, 2019, and he shall be permitted to return to Secaucus High School on April 29, 2019, following Spring recess.

2. The student shall perform community service by assisting the Technology Department with the assembly of the Chromebook carts for New Jersey student testing from April 29, 2019 through May 3, 2019, for a minimum of five (5) hours.

3. The student shall perform community service by providing tutoring to other students every day as scheduled by the administration for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year.

4. The student shall deposit his cell phone with the principal each morning upon arrival at Secaucus High School and he shall not be permitted to retrieve it until he leaves the building at the conclusion of the school day.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED if the student fails to satisfy any of the requirements set forth in this resolution he shall be subject to further disciplinary action following a hearing before the Board;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that during the period of the student’s suspension, the student shall be provided home instruction pursuant to State law, *N.J.A.C. 6A:16-10.2*, that meets the Core Curriculum Standards in accordance with *N.J.A.C. 6A:8-1.1 et seq.*;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the student shall not be present on the Board’s school campus before, during and after the regularly scheduled school day during the period of his suspension, unless specifically authorized by the Superintendent;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby determines that the student shall not be permitted to participate in any athletic, co-curricular and/or extra-curricular activities sponsored by the Board and shall not be present for or attend any Board sponsored activities, either on campus or in any school district where the Secaucus School District is participating in the activities during the period of suspension;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board additionally determines that any further engagement by the student in conduct warranting expulsion pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2*, and/or fails to comply with any of the aforementioned terms and conditions shall constitute a knowing and voluntary waiver of the student’s right to a free public education in the event that a decision to expel the student is made by the Board pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2* and *N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.5*.

The foregoing resolutions were adopted by a roll call vote as follows:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Lance Bartletta	X			
Joan Cali	X			
Sharon Dellafave	X			
Mary Eccles	X			
Kathy McFarlane	X			
John McStowe	X	R1.09		
Kathy O'Connell	X	R1.09		
Ruby Pantoliano	X			
Dr. Strobert	X	R1.09		

2.Policy- None

3.Shared Services – None

4.Legislation – None

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

5. Curriculum-

R5.01

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Kathy O'Connell

SECONDED BY: Sharon Dellafave

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves the Summer Math Academy Program which will run from June 21 through July 16

R5.02

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Kathy O'Connell

SECONDED BY: Sharon Dellafave

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves the Hockey Co-op Agreement

R5.03

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Kathy O’Connell

SECONDED BY: Sharon Dellafave

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the annexed Field Trips.

R5.04

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Kathy O’Connell

SECONDED BY: Sharon Dellafave

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, to offer Senior Option for the 2019-2020/SY

The foregoing resolutions were adopted by a roll call vote as follows:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Lance Bartletta	X			
Joan Cali	X			
Sharon Dellafave	X			
Mary Eccles	X			
Kathy McFarlane	X			
John McStowe	X			
Kathy O’Connell	X			
Ruby Pantoliano	X			
Dr. Strobert	X			

6. Athletics- None

7. School Technology – None

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

8. Finance-

R8.01

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Kathy McFarlane

SECONDED BY: Kathy O'Connell

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Board of Education approve the check register, as submitted by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to pay bills and claims in the amount of \$ 3,810,074.23

R8.02

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Kathy McFarlane

SECONDED BY: Kathy O'Connell

BE IT RESOLVED: the Report of Transfers submitted by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary for the month of February within the various appropriations for the 2018-2019 school year as shown on the annexed report.

R8.03

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Kathy McFarlane

SECONDED BY: Kathy O'Connell

BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.12(e), we certify that the Financial Reports of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary and the Treasurer of School Monies, as presented by the School Business Administrator for the month(s) of February be placed on file. The Reports are in agreement. The Board of Education, after review of the Secretary's Financial Reports (Appropriations Section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, hereby certifies to the best of our knowledge, no major account or funds have been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.23(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

R8.04

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Kathy McFarlane

SECONDED BY: Kathy O'Connell

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby authorizes, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools, the out of district travel for employees as annexed to this resolution.

REQUEST FOR OUT OF DISTRICT CONFERENCE/WORKSHOPS

DATE : 4/11/2019						
Employee Name	Date(s) of Event	Title of Event	Location	Registration Fee	Estimated Tolls Mileage, etc.	Total Cost
Patricia Smeyers	4/17/2019	Steve Audubato Show	Newark	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Eileen Losurdo	6/6/2019	Realtime User Group Meeting	Saddle Brook	\$0.00	\$7.01	\$7.01
Daniela Riser	5/3/2019	Mindfulness & Stress Management	Hoboken	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
CarrieAnn Devito	5/9/2019	Keeping You out of Court	Summit	\$0.00	\$13.45	\$13.45
Jerome Kaiser	5/2/2019	Are you Future Ready?	Trenton	\$0.00	\$57.14	\$57.14
Jerome Kaiser	5/9/2019	Building a Cyber-Secure Environment	Trenton	\$0.00	\$57.14	\$57.14

R8.05

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Kathy McFarlane

SECONDED BY: Kathy O’Connell

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby authorizes the Business Administrator and President to execute contract, with Group Travel Network, Inc. for arranging trip to Philadelphia, PA for the Secaucus High School Band.

R8.06

INTRODUCED BY: Kathy McFarlane

SECONDED BY: Kathy O’Connell

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby authorizes the Business Administrator and President to execute contract, with Statistical Forecasting, LLC to perform Demographic Services not to exceed \$13,350

R8.07

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Kathy McFarlane

SECONDED BY: Kathy O’Connell

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby authorizes the Business Administrator to accept a digital sign valued at \$ 9,637 for Huber Street School on behalf of the Huber Street School PTA

R8.08

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Kathy McFarlane

SECONDED BY: Kathy O'Connell

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby authorizes the Business Administrator and President to execute the annexed addendum to the contract with The Uncommon Thread for the time frame of March 2019 through June 2019.

R8.09

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Kathy McFarlane

SECONDED BY: Kathy O'Connell

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby authorizes the Business Administrator and President to rescind R8.06 from February 14, 2019, contract with School Craft Studios for school year 2019-2020

R8.10

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Kathy McFarlane

SECONDED BY: Kathy O'Connell

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby authorizes the Business Administrator and President to execute contract, with Cumberland Therapy Services, LLC from April 11, 2019 through June 30, 2020

School Psychologist	\$85.00 per hour
Speech Language Pathologist	\$83.00 per hour
Occupational Therapist	\$80.00 per hour
Physical Therapist	\$84.00 per hour
Social Workers	\$62.00 per hour
Special Education Teacher	\$59.00 per hour
BCBA	\$95.00 per hour
Registered Behavioral Therapist	\$35.00 per hour
Para Professional	\$30.00 per hour

R8.11

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Kathy McFarlane

SECONDED BY: Kathy O’Connell

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby authorizes the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to advertise Requests for Proposals for a Food Management Company for food services

The foregoing resolutions were adopted by a roll call vote as follows:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Lance Bartletta	X			
Joan Cali	X			
Sharon Dellafave	X			
Mary Eccles	X			
Kathy McFarlane	X			
John McStowe	X			
Kathy O’Connell	X			
Ruby Pantoliano	X			
Dr. Strobert	X			

9. Safety/Security – Buildings & Grounds-

R9.01

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Mary Eccles

SECONDED BY: Kathy O’Connell

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education authorizes the Transportation Coordinator to submit the annexed School Bus Emergency Evacuation Drill Reports for Clarendon Elementary, Huber Street Elementary, Early Learning Center, Secaucus Middle School, and Secaucus High School, the second of two mandatory drills for school year 2018-2019.

M9.01 Motion to advertise for 2019-2020 Student Transportation Services and submit to county for final approval.

The foregoing resolutions were adopted by a roll call vote as follows:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Lance Bartletta	X			
Joan Cali	X			
Sharon Dellafave	X			
Mary Eccles	X			
Kathy McFarlane	X			
John McStowe	X			
Kathy O’Connell	X			
Ruby Pantoliano	X			
Dr. Strobert	X			

10. Technology – None

Public General Comments -

Don Evanson – “Secaucus Spectator”

Mr. Evanson began by thanking the teachers from Clarendon School and Huber Street School for their participation in the recent Layup Challenge. Upcoming events are the “Torch Run” on June 7th for Special Olympics that begins at Clarendon School, heads to Huber Street School then onto the Middle/High School to raise awareness about the Special Olympics. There will be a Texas Hold Em contest at La Reggia with proceeds going to the St. Jude Children’s Hospital.

Frank Basile – New Stages

Mr. Basile is a spokesperson for New Stages which is a group that would like to use our PAC for performances to teach and inspire students of Secaucus with all facets of putting on a live theatre production. Mr. Basile would like the town and schools to work together on this venture to see that it is beneficial and educational to all involved. His hope is that current professionals in the business would work with our students on some productions that may eventually become shows on Broadway. The idea would be to work on these shows in our PAC teaching our students and some in the community all the pieces that put together Broadway shows. Hopes of coming to an agreement between the school and his organization is his wish.

Board Member Comments-

Sharon Dellafave and Kathy McFarlane thanked Don Evanson for his fundraising projects and wished everyone a Happy Passover and Happy Easter.

Motion by Jack McStowe, seconded by Mary Eccles, and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:07PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Grace Yeo
Board Secretary