

FLEMINGTON-RARITAN REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION

VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING

April 6, 2020

MINUTES

The **Virtual** Regular Meeting of the Flemington-Raritan Regional Board of Education was called to order in conformance with the "Sunshine Law" by the Board President **via Zoom** at 7:00 p.m.

Member(s) Present Virtually

Jessica Abbott	Susan Mitcheltree
Valerie Bart	Edward Morgan
Jeffrey Cain	Christopher Walker
Marianne Kenny	Tim Bart
Laurie Markowski	

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. McGann reviewed the district's enrollment. She shared the district survey options. Dr. McGann gave an update on COVID-19 and remote learning. Dr. McGann gave special thanks to the Flemington-Raritan staff and community for their hard work. She shared the Covid 19 State Closures. Mr. Walker asked Ms. Markowski and Dr. McGann if the Board can have capacity numbers. Dr. McGann stated they are included in the demographers report and we can further discuss this in committee. Mr. Walker asked if students are not being graded. Dr. McGann noted places to locate this information and concurred the students are not being graded.

On the motion of Ms. Abbott, seconded by Ms. Makowski, minutes of the Virtual Regular Meeting as on March 23, 2020, were approved viva voce.

CITIZENS ADDRESS THE BOARD

Mr. Bart read the following statement regarding public comment pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(a), the Open Public Meetings Act. Members of the public are invited to address the Board according to the Board's policy and bylaws. Please be aware that this portion is your opportunity to comment, and is not a forum for the Board to respond to your comments. However, the Board will certainly give all comments appropriate consideration.

None

PERSONNEL

The next meeting will be April 21, 2020.

THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS FOR APPROVAL:

Dr. McGann withdrew item 1. number 1. before the motion was made. This item was a motion to accept Maralyn Fielding's resignation.

All Personnel items were approved under one motion made by Ms. Mitcheltree, seconded by Ms. Markowski.

Certified Staff – Appointments, Resignations & Leaves of Absence

- Approval was given to accept the resignation of the following staff member(s) for the 2019-2020 school year, as follows:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Position	Purpose	Effective Date
2.	Hillebrecht	Patricia	RH	Reading Recovery	Retirement	June 30, 2020
3.	Rogers	Ellen	CH	Autism	Retirement	June 30, 2020

2. Approval was given to amend the February 24, 2020 motion:

to accept the resignation of the following staff member(s) for the 2019-2020 school year, as follows:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Position	Purpose	Effective Date
2.	Gapinski	Kelly	SS	District Wide Behaviorist	Resignation	April 8, 2020

to read:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Position	Purpose	Effective Date
2.	Gapinski	Kelly	SS	District Wide Behaviorist	Resignation	April 30, 2020

3. Approval was given to extend the leave of absence for the following staff member(s) during the 2019-2020 school year, as follows:*

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Position	Type of Leave	Leave	Effective Dates
							Extended Dates
1.	Brush	Jodi	FAD	Grade 4	Medical	Disability	February 3, 2020 - April 30, 2020
							May 1, 2020 - May 15, 2020
2.	Skiba	Jennifer	RH	LLD Grade 1	Maternity	Disability	November 13, 2019-January 28, 2020
						FMLA	January 29, 2020-April 27, 2020
						Childcare	April 28, 2020-June 30, 2020

***Mr. Walker abstained.**

4. Approval was given to extend the employment of the following leave replacement(s) during the 2019-2020 school year, as follows:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Position/ Replacing	Effective Date	Salary/Degree/Step	Certification/College
					Extended Dates		
1.	Kruckmeyer	Marina	RH	LLD Grade 1/ Jennifer Skiba	January 14, 2020 - April 28, 2020	\$55,025 (prorated) / BA/1*	Elementary School Teacher in Grades K-6 (Provisional), Teacher of Students with Disabilities (Provisional)/ Centenary University, Raritan Valley Community College, Berufskollege Kleve
					April 29, 2020 - June 30, 2020		
2.	Robison	Kelly	FAD	Grade 4/Jodi Brush	February 4, 2020- May 1, 2020	\$55,025/(prorated)/ BA/1*	Elementary School Teacher in Grades K-6 (Provisional), Elementary School Teacher with Mathematics (Provisional) Specialization: in Grades 5-8/Pennsylvania State University, Rutgers University
					May 2, 2020- May 18, 2020		

*Substitute Per Diem Rate waived due to continued service

5. Approval was given to amend the March 9, 2020 motion:

to employ the following leave replacement(s) during the 2019-2020 school year, pending fingerprints, background check and health exam, as follows:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Position/Replacing	Effective Date	Salary/Degree/Step	Certification/College
1.	Van Fleet	Heather	RH	ESL/Julia Rosa	April 8, 2020- June 30, 2020	Substitute Per Diem Rate (Days 1-20)	Elementary School Teacher, Teacher of English, Teacher of English as a Second Language/University of New Hampshire, The College of New Jersey, Trinity College London
						\$58,300 (Prorated)/ MA/1 (Day 21+)	

to read:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Position/Replacing	Effective Date	Salary/Degree/Step	Certification/College
1.	Van Fleet	Heather	RH	ESL/Julia Rosa	March 26, 2020- June 30, 2020	Substitute Per Diem Rate (Days 1-20)	Elementary School Teacher, Teacher of English, Teacher of English as a Second Language/University of New Hampshire, The College of New Jersey, Trinity College London

6. Approval was given to accept the resignation of the following staff member(s) for the 2019-2020 school year, as follows:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Position	Purpose	Effective Date
1.	Kurylo	Patricia	CH	Kindergarten	Retirement	June 30, 2020

7. Approval was given to accept the resignation of the following staff member(s) for the 2020-2021 school year, as follows:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Position	Purpose	Effective Date
1.	Salerno	Alyssa	BS	School Nurse	Resignation	July 13, 2020

Non-Certified Staff – Appointments, Resignations & Leaves of Absence

8. Approval was given to confirm the leave of absence for the following staff member(s) during the 2019-2020 school year, as follows:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Position	Type of Leave	Leave	Anticipated Dates
1.	Terelle	Frank	CO	Maintenance Mechanic- Electrician	Medical	Disability	March 30, 2020-April 12, 2020

Mr. Bart congratulated all the retirees and thanked them for their service.

Aye: Ms. Abbott Ms. Mitcheltree Nay: 0 **Abstain: Mr. Walker - #3**
 Mrs. Bart Mr. Morgan
 Mr. Cain Mr. Walker
 Dr. Kenny Mr. Bart
 Ms. Markowski

CURRICULUM, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, ASSESSMENT, TECHNOLOGY & GRANTS

The next meeting will be April 22, 2020.

Dr. McGann withdrew item number 4. This item was approval for Mr. Kassick's travel that had been recently cancelled.

All Curriculum items were approved under one motion made by Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Cain.

1. Approval was given to employ the following staff member(s), or their alternate(s), for additional compensation during the 2019-2020 school year. If alternates are necessary, their employment will be confirmed as replacements at no additional cost.

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Purpose	Max. # of Hours	Rate
1.	Custy	Mary Jane	BS	Tools of the Mind Curriculum Development	10 hrs.	\$33.78/hr.

2. Approval was given to purchase the following items from a state contracted vendor(s) where aggregate purchases exceed \$40,000.

Item	Description	Vendor	Cost not to exceed
1.	40 iPad Wi-Fi 32GB	Apple	\$11,760.00

2.	20 Dell Latitude 3301	Candoris Technologies LLC	\$13,731.20
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3. Approval was given to amend the February 24, 2020 motion:

of the following travel expenditures for staff member(s) or their designated alternate to attend professional development conferences/workshops. This travel is deemed educationally necessary and fiscally prudent and all travel expenditures shall be directly related to and within the scope of the staff member's current responsibilities and professional development plans. Travel for conferences will be contingent upon the reopening of schools in the State of New Jersey.

Item	Last Name	First Name	Workshop/Conference	Dates	Includes (see below)	Max. Amount
2.	Curtis	Melissa	PECS Level 1 Training, New Brunswick, NJ	June 4-5, 2020	R,M	\$420
3.	Yanez	Marcella	PECS Level 1 Training, New Brunswick, NJ	June 4-5, 2020	R,M	\$450
R = Registration Fee; M = Mileage; L = Lodging; F = Food; O = Other						

to read:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Workshop/Conference	Dates	Includes (see below)	Max. Amount
2.	Curtis	Melissa	PECS Level 1 Training, New Brunswick, NJ	June 4-5, 2020	R,M	\$450*
3.	Yanez	Marcella	PECS Level 1 Training, New Brunswick, NJ	June 4-5, 2020	R,M	\$475*
R = Registration Fee; M = Mileage; L = Lodging; F = Food; O = Other						

*Registration Fee Increase

Mr. Bart asked about item #2. Mr. Bland responded these were budgeted and explained the need.

Aye: Ms. Abbott Ms. Mitcheltree **Nay:** 0 **Abstain:** 0
Mrs. Bart Mr. Morgan
Mr. Cain Mr. Walker
Dr. Kenny Mr. Bart
Ms. Markowski

FACILITIES/OPERATIONS/SECURITY

The next meeting will be April 21, 2020.

All Facilities/Operations/Security items were approved under one motion made by Ms. Markowski, seconded by Dr. Kenny.

Mr. Bart requested that item 2 be tabled at this time.

Ms. Markowski rescinded the original motion to approve item #'s - 1-3, seconded by Dr. Kenny.

Dr. Kenny asked why we are tabling the second motion. Mr. Bart explained that Verizon requires a 1 year contract and the Board Members are concerned. Mr. Bart stated the Board wants the County, the New Jersey Department of Education to support schools by pushing Verizon and he is concerned with price gouging. Dr. McGann noted the technology team gave recommendations to the Superintendent for those students who do not have access to the internet. Dr. McGann and the technology team have been in conversation with Verizon representatives. Dr. McGann explained this is the only option for the school to consider. Mr. Bart noted Comcast is offering this for free. He feels short term is understandable, Verizon should not hold the Board to a 12 month contract. Mr. Bland explained that the district typically uses this government contract.

Mrs. Bart noted she wants to negotiate for only 3 months, she is concerned with spending money when families can't afford to eat. Mr. Bart feels this is price gouging and wants the State to protect schools. He noted business cannot run as usual. Ms. Abbott expressed concern for the students that can not get access and understands what Verizon is doing. She noted the Board does not

have another meeting for 3 weeks. Mr. Bart noted the Board can have a special meeting if need be. Mr. Bland shared connectivity issues to Comcast and the Comcast essential programs.

Mr. Cain expressed concern that these are the most vulnerable students and is concerned that these students are not getting educated. He is 100% against tabling. Dr. Kenny asked Mr. Bland if this is the best we can do? Ms. Mitcheltree asked why we are ordering 50 ipads for 40 students. Mr. Bland explained. Mrs. Bart asked Mr. Bland to make an additional call to look at another option. She doesn't want to impact students but doesn't want us to make assumptions either. Mr. Bart asked if these students are currently being educated. Dr. McGann responded, yes, we are sending home books and work. Dr. McGann noted we have been saving money with not hiring substitutes. Mr. Bart noted the main issue is the 12 month contract. He is concerned. Mr. Walker noted he is concerned as well that this could be a long term expense and once we give our ok, how do we take it back?

Mr. Walker agreed with Mr. Bart and would like to see additional investigations. Ms. Mitcheltree asked if we know if these jet packs are going to solve the problem. Mr. Bland clarified that we can return them in 30 days. Ms. Markowski was disconnected from the meeting via virtual call at 8:12 p.m. Ms. Abbott noted she feels the Board is micromanaging because the Board does not usually make these decisions. Mr. Walker questioned why the item is on the agenda if it does not need to be. Mr. Bart stated he does not agree with Ms. Abbott and does not feel that the Board is micromanaging the district but understands. Ms. Voorhees explained why the item is on the agenda and noted we do not typically use Federal contracts and we needed to get emergent approval. Mr. Bland noted he wrote to the legislators and asked that the internet be reexamined to qualify for e-rate. Dr. McGann thanked Mr. Bland for his work and his technology teams work on this issue. Ms. Markowski returned to the meeting via virtual phone @ 8:20 p.m.

Ms. Markowski made a motion to table item #2, seconded by Dr. Kenny.

<p>Aye: Mrs. Bart Ms. Markowski Ms. Mitcheltree</p>	<p>Mr. Walker Mr. Bart</p>	<p>Nay: Ms. Abbott Mr. Cain Dr. Kenny Mr. Morgan</p>	<p>Abstain: 0</p>
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Facilities/Operations/Security items #'s 1 & 3 were approved under one motion made by Ms. Markowski, seconded by Ms. Abbott.

Mr. Walker asked if item #2 has been purchased already? Ms. McGann noted the order has been placed, and will have to be put on hold if the item does not pass.

1. Approval was given to award Pravco Inc., as the successful bidder for the roof system replacements at the Barley Sheaf, Copper Hill and Robert Hunter Elementary schools, as outlined in the attached resolution.
2. Approval to confirm the emergent purchase of jet packs and service in the amount of \$27,793.50 from Verizon Wireless to remedy the emergent issues as defined by N.J.S.A.18A:18A-7 and Board Policy 6424. The County Office provided approval before the purchase was made.*

***Motion was tabled.**

3. Approval was given to authorize the procurement of goods and services through the attached list of State Contracted Vendors for the 2019-2020 school year.

<p>Aye: Ms. Abbott Mrs. Bart Mr. Cain Dr. Kenny Ms. Markowski</p>	<p>Ms. Mitcheltree Mr. Morgan Mr. Walker Mr. Bart</p>	<p>Nay: 0</p>	<p>Abstain: 0</p>
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TRANSPORTATION

The next meeting will be April 7, 2020.

FINANCE

The next meeting will be May 7, 2020.

POLICY

Regular Meeting
The next meeting will be May 7, 2020.

April 6, 2020

SPECIAL EDUCATION

The next meeting will be April 22, 2020.

MISCELLANEOUS (INFORMATION-ACTION)

Information

- Drill(s) to date for the 2019-2020 School Year:

Month	Fire Drills					
	<i>BS</i>	<i>CH</i>	<i>FAD</i>	<i>RH</i>	<i>RFIS</i>	<i>JPC</i>
September	09/12	09/23	09/12	09/09	09/16	09/12
October	10/08	10/28	10/28	10/18	10/24	10/10
November	11/14	11/06	11/14	11/26	11/04	11/04
December	12/04	12/18	12/11	12/10	12/16	12/10
January	01/06	01/15	01/10	01/15	01/15	01/02 01/23
February	02/12	02/26	02/12	02/03	02/24	02/20
March	*	*	*	*	*	03/02
Month	Security Drills					
	<i>BS</i>	<i>CH</i>	<i>FAD</i>	<i>RH</i>	<i>RFIS</i>	<i>JPC</i>
September	09/20	09/18	09/20	09/10	09/12	09/17
October	10/02	10/29	10/10	10/14	10/08 10/10	10/30
November	11/06	11/13	11/22	11/13	11/13	11/13
December	12/12	12/16	12/06	12/13	12/11	12/16
January	01/15	01/17	01/29	01/22	01/10	01/17
February	02/04	02/24	02/28	02/26	02/12	02/24
March	03/10	*	*	*	03/10	03/11
<i>* No drill held before school closed on March 16, 2020. School remained closed through the end of March.</i>						

- Suspensions for the month of March:

School	Infraction	# of Days
RH	Aggressive Physical Behavior	.5
RH	Aggressive Behavior	.5
RH	Assault to a Staff Member	2
RH	Aggressive Behavior	.5

- Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Investigation(s) for the 2019-2020 school year:

School	Date of Incident	Report #	HIB (Y/N)	Additional Action Taken
CH	March 3, 2020 - March 6, 2020	CH #3	No	Interventions outlined in report

All Miscellaneous/Action times were approved under one motion made by Mr. Morgan, seconded by Ms. Abbott.

Action Items

- Approval was given to adopt the revised 2019-2020 District Calendar, as attached.
- Approval was given to accept the following Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Investigation(s) presented on the March 23, 2020 Board Agenda, as follows:

School	Date of Incident	Report #	HIB (Y/N)	Additional Action Taken
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RH	February 3, 2020-February 26, 2020	RH #6	No	Interventions outlined in report
FAD	March 4, 2020	FAD #1	No	Interventions outlined in report

3. Approval was given to accept the following donation(s) for the 2019-2020 school year, as follows:

Item	Donation	Value	Location	Funding Source
1.	Shoprite Gift Cards to be distributed to Flemington-Raritan School District families in need.	\$800.00	District	Flemington Borough Police Department via a Borough concerned citizen
2.	Girl Scout Cookies	\$171.00	BS	PTO - Barley Sheaf

Dr. McGann noted Ms. Mitcheltree worked with Girl Scout troop #80714 for this gracious donation. Dr. McGann noted she is also grateful for the donation from the concerned citizen as well.

Aye: Ms. Abbott Ms. Mitcheltree **Nay:** 0 **Abstain:** 0
 Mrs. Bart Mr. Morgan
 Mr. Cain Mr. Walker
 Dr. Kenny Mr. Bart
 Ms. Markowski

CORRESPONDENCE

None

OLD BUSINESS

Dr. Kenny asked for a detailed report of the legal expenses on an ongoing basis. Mrs. Bart reminded everyone she rescinded her request for a detailed report especially with the status of the nation. Dr. McGann noted costs are budgeted at the same level. Dr. McGann then noted there are confidential matters involved. Dr. Kenny asked for another layer of detail including topics. Dr. McGann shared the committees discussed many of these topics. Ms. Voorhees noted we would have to evaluate each detail list to create a list. Mrs. Bart noted this could be considered managing the district. Dr. Kenny wants to discuss this at the next Finance Committee meeting. Mr. Walker agreed with Dr. Kenny, he also feels we need to look at all 3rd party vendors. Ms. Voorhees noted that hourly rates were not the only criteria during the RFP process, she noted professional development is free from Comegno. Mr. Walker noted the Board should discuss this every year. Ms. Abbott responded that the Board has discussed this topic often and it will be further discussed in the Finance committee meeting.

Ms. Voorhees noted Ms. McGann is now Dr. McGann and that she worked very hard for this and didn't want it to go unnoticed.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Bart thanked our Flemington-Raritan School District community for their hard work. He wished everyone a safe spring break. Ms. Mitcheltree asked for a special meeting date to handle the internet for the students. Mr. Bart noted he will talk to Dr. McGann after the meeting to confirm a new meeting date.

CITIZENS ADDRESS THE BOARD

Mr. Bart read the following statement regarding public comment pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(a), the Open Public Meetings Act. Members of the public are invited to address the Board according to the Board's policy and bylaws. Please be aware that this portion is your opportunity to comment, and is not a forum for the Board to respond to your comments. However, the Board will certainly give all comments appropriate consideration.

Kristen Boyce, Flemington Borough, asked for clarification on the calendar changes. Dr. McGann explained the changes and that the school is closed from April 9th through the 17th.

ADJOURN

On the motion of Ms. Mitcheltree, seconded by Ms. Markowski, the meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m. viva voce.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Voorhees
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

2020 Board Meetings

April 27

May 4 & 18

June 8 & 22

July 27

August 24

September 14 & 29

October 12 & 26

November 9 & 23

December 14