BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOROUGH OF TOTOWA

MEETING MINUTES

09/23/2020

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Borough of Totowa was held at Washington Park School Media Center, 10 Crews Street, Totowa, New Jersey and in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:48-8(b), and guidance from the NJ Department of Community Affairs Division of Local Government Services via Zoom on September 23, 2020.

1. Call To Order

President Guarneri called the meeting to order at 7:20 P.M. and led all present in the salute to the flag and remain standing for a moment of silence for our past and present troops.

2. Roll Call

Members Present:	Ms. Alesandrelli, Mr. Bierach, Ms. Carr, Ms. DeCeglie, Mr. Guarneri, Mr. Kerwin, Mr. Reynoso and Mr. Tangora
Members Absent:	Ms. Antonucci
Also Present:	Patricia Capitelli, Superintendent of Schools Vincent Varcadipane, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary Mr. Raymond B. Reddin, Board Attorney

3. Open Public Meeting Notice

The following statement was read by Mr. Varcadipane:

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 public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this act, the Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted in the Municipal Building and notice was mailed to the North Jersey Herald News and The Record.

4. Public to be Heard

Mr. Guarneri asked Mr. Varcadipane if there were any questions from the public. Mr. Varcadipane stated that he will read all of the public questions per participant before a response is given.

Ms. Alison Carlo of 576 Totowa Road asked the following:

My children are remote learners. I have an 8th grader and two fourth graders. For the 8th grade, I am not a fan of the fact that there are 30-40 students in each class while their in-person counterparts have 10-12, but at least they have a teacher dedicated to teaching them for the whole period. Which brings me to my question, how did you think it was going to be acceptable at the fourth grade level to have 30-35 children in remote learning while their in-person counterparts are in classes of about 10. To make matters worse, you have that teacher splitting her time with a whole other grade with 30-35 students there as well. My children are not getting an equal education as their in person counterparts. The in-person students have the teacher in the classroom all the time to answer questions in real time, while my kids are set to figure things out on their own or in their small groups, but no teacher to make sure they are on task and to answer questions in real time. They have to wait 50 minutes for the teacher to return to their group. You are penalizing all the families that opted for remote learning by using this model. I emailed Mr. Bower as well as Mrs. Capatelli over a week ago and have not heard back yet.
My question is, when will you give the students in the younger grades (pre-K through 4) a single teacher dedicated to each individual grade so you are offering equal education to all students both virtual and in-person?

Ms. Capitelli responded that our while creating our reopening plan, our first priority was to the safety of our staff and students which led to smaller class sizes for our in person learners. There are no limits to how many students can attend a virtual class. Classes and schedules were determined based on information received on the number of students that would be in person and or remote learners. In Kindergarten through grade 4 there is one teacher because it was our belief that it was unrealistic for a student to sit in front of the computer from 9:00 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. without a break. A period was created for the teacher to give in person instruction to go over the skills and standards and then students would be given time to complete assignments on their own. The teacher would then come back into the meeting and go over the assignment or answer questions. The reopening plan has been approved by the state that we met all of the requirements. Comparing virtual instruction to in-person instruction, no matter what age, it is not the same. It is equitable because they are given the same standards, concepts and level of rigor. The District has been careful in doing that so if the students do transition back in the transition would be seamless.

Ms. Krista Palmieri stated and asked:

Hello. My son started kindergarten this year & we have had nothing but trouble with remote learning. His teacher has tried helping me as much as she can.
He is a week and a half behind on independent work. I can not access his email. I can not access think central, seesaw, microsoft or clever!
I reached out to tech & hoping they get back to me ASAP so my child can get into his live classes tomorrow AND start doing his independent work. I have many educators in my family & I know this is hard for everyone. But this is unacceptable & I am not happy!

Ms. Capitelli responded that this email was received last night and Mr. Minieri has worked with the parent today to get the student back up and running. The issue was resolved.

Ms. Shannon Taylor of 443 Riverview Drive asked the following:

1. Why are 7th grade remote learning students only getting 35 minutes for their math class every day when all the other classes are 48 minutes? This means they are missing 1 hour and 5 minutes of Math per week. And for this week, they will be losing 1 hour and 49 minutes. Math should be one of the most important classes and feel this is unacceptable.

2. Since I can only speak for 7th grade remote learning, why are they only receiving Science and Social Studies every other day? Why are they not having Science and Social Studies every day?

3. Can someone explain the purpose of the Academic period? Most of the time the remote students have no idea what they're supposed to be working on and the parents have no idea what class they're supposed to be working in Academic. It just seems like this period is only being used for "busy work" and the students aren't learning anything. Couldn't this period be better utilized for Math class?

Ms. Capitelli stated that the Science and Social Studies being scheduled every other day was because do to the shut down last year between March and June we felt our students would be behind in ELA and Math. We wanted to dedicate more times to those periods to catch up. This might change in the future because everything is very fluid and changes on a day to day basis. The academic period is assigned for Language Arts and Math. There is a dedicated teacher that gives assignments, review work and answer any questions. The last period is shorter and the teacher is on

is shorter and the teacher is on there all of the time giving assignments and working with the students. As far as the half days, they are on the calendar and are board approved. Throughout the year it will equal out with other half days. In the past when we had assemblies or delayed openings there are always things that come up where students miss some time. This week it just happened to be the last period of the day.

Ms. Maureen Puglise asked the following:

I would like to voice my concerns regarding the virtual learning plan. While I do not believe anyone entered into the school year expecting perfection from either the virtual or the in-person learning plans, I do however see there are some glaring issues with the virtual plan that need to be addressed. First I'd like to bring attention to the amount of children the current plan has the 3rd / 4th grade teacher teaching simultaneously. My son is one of 60 plus students being taught by one teacher. She is expected to somehow divide her teaching schedule between both grade levels & at the same time provide all these children with the same education that the in-person students (who are in groups of 14 or less and have their teacher present the entire scheduled school day) are receiving.
Neither the 3rd or 4th grade virtual students are getting the attention or the education they deserve. My child is seeing his teacher on screen approximately one hour per day. There are large blocks of time where he is doing independent work and the teacher is not accessible if there are questions or help is needed. These are formative years, and the children need their teacher present. I do not fault the teacher in anyway; she is doing the best she can with the challenging situation she has been given. Simply put, I do not feel it is fair or productive to the children of either grade level to have to share a teacher.

Can we expect another teacher to be put in place to separate the 3rd & 4th grade levels and give all the students the time, attention & education they deserve?

For the upper grades, it was my understanding that all students would have Specials in the afternoon when returning from lunch, this however is not the case for the virtual students. My 6th grader has Reading & my 8th grader has Science/ Social Studies. The last period of the day is shorter than all the others so they lose out on learning time in those subjects daily. In addition, when we have shortened day such as this week, they lose those classes completely. The schedule should be reworked especially on the shortened days so that the virtual students are not missing out on valuable learning time in those classes. If the virtual students are expected to learn the same material as the in-person students then they should also be allotted the same time in which to learn it.

Please note, that at the last two Board of Education meetings it was recommended that questions and concerns be directed to the school administration directly; I did this in an email dated September 14th and to date have yet to receive a response.
Thank you for your time.

Ms. Capitelli responded that if someone sends and email or calls and does not receive a response to reach out again. Anyone that has called the offices, directors, supervisors or myself we have been very diligent calling back that day. In regard to the number of students in classes and teachers being shared between grades, that was addressed in a previous email. At this time we are not expecting to put another teacher in place. The situation is very fluid and every marking period parents will have the option of keeping their students virtual or sending them back into school. We are going to be looking at rescheduling four times a year. If the situation stays as it currently is, we feel this plan is the best for serving the students safely and providing instruction.

Ms. Michele asked the following:

It is my understanding that questions to be addressed at the board of education meeting should be directed via email to your attention. My son is in 3rd grade and on the virtual platform. At the present time, the 3rd grade virtual students are sharing a teacher with the 4th grade virtual students. I was wondering if there are any plans to hire either another full time teacher or a teachers assistant so that someone is available to assist the students throughout the full day as there is with the students that are in class in person.

Ms. Capitelli stated this question was previously answered. We have to remember that while everyone is trying to compare in-person instruction to virtual instruction, the students in-person are also receiving a 15 minute snack break. The students also receive a mask break, where weather permitting, the teacher takes them outside. When looking and trying to compare minute for minute it is not always the case that the students are having full instruction or one on one instruction for all minutes in the schedule in-person. Everyone is trying to compare and say they have to be the same and that is not going to be the case. It is important for the virtual students to receive their instruction, start their assignments and also take a break when needed. The teacher will then be back to answer questions.

Mr. Robert and Ms. Laura Ardis asked:

We have a 3rd grader virtual student who shares his teacher with the 4th grade as well. With no reflection on the teacher, who indeed tries her best to balance such a task, this is quite unfair to her as well as her students. It has led to less contact for instruction, which in person students we know have.

Will you please take in consideration adding a full time teacher for 3rd grade or at least an aid to have contact with and to help.

Thank you for your consideration on this important matter.

Mr. Michael Grant stated and asked the following:

Ms. Capitelli and Totowa Board of Education Members,

I am writing to express a few concerns regarding my 5th grade son's virtual education. As per the Governor a school must provide a virtual education that is equal to the education provided to students in school. While I understand that some differences between in-person and virtual instruction are unavoidable by nature, there should be no difference in the amount of instructional time especially when it comes to the core content areas (reading/writing, math, social studies, science). The schedule for in-person students allows for 1 hour and 5 minutes extra instruction per week in the area of writing for 5th grade. This is unacceptable and must be rectified. We have been in contact with the Principal Mr. Bower and have been told the schedule is being worked on. This week alone our virtual children in grades 5 - 8 will lose an additional 1 hours and 49 minutes for the two half days and three full days. At this point they would be 3 hrs and 13 minutes behind their peers in writing for 5th grade. Mr. Bower explained that the 13 minutes won't make a difference because the students are being taught the same standards and receive the same instruction. As any educator would know student contact time is valuable and 13 minutes per day of difference between the two groups means that the education provided by the school is unequal. My son has 13 minutes less to ask questions, get extra help, complete his same assignment, and be provided additional assignments if he finishes early. His teacher is doing an outstanding job. The fault falls on administration for approving a schedule that does not provide equal instruction to all students. I would like to know when the virtual schedule will be more academically equivalent to the on site schedule?

Another concern is the number of students in specific classes. The class sizes for some classes does not allow the teacher the opportunity to attend to students' needs. All of the "Specials" classes have class sizes that are unmanageable for teachers to attend to student's specific needs. How are the large class sizes going to be addressed so that the virtual students can receive the attention needed?

Another concern is that teachers were not trained to utilize teams properly. During the first week of school, many times my son was in virtual classes with other students and no teacher. Students were able to start their own meetings and invite their friends. Even this week there have been many continuing issues with Teams and how it's utilized by administration and staff. I fault the administration for poor planning and preparation. Are the teachers receiving additional training on how to optimize the students' experience through teams?

Finally, the academic period listed on my child's schedule is a waste of instructional time. They are given busy work with little to no guidance. They are told to find something to do when they don't have an assignment. It was explained to me that this class was to be an additional time to receive instruction from the core classes. There are many other ways to utilize this time effectively, but the current plan is not educationally sound.

Thank you for your time.

Ms. Capitelli stated that many of the issues were already addressed. As far as the training we have been using Microsoft Office for over 3 years. Every summer we offer an institute where professional development consulting firm come in and 25 teachers participate in this. We also have training the two days prior to school starting. Training is offered throughout the year. There definitely has been glitches. Some of it was Microsoft issues, some are systems issues and some issues arise when using it with a full class of students that needed to be ironed out. We are continually working on this to improve. From the beginning of the year to now we have made a lot of strides in fixing those issues. I would like to thank some of the parents for their patience and support while going through some of the difficulties we were having.

Ms. Christine Holmberg stated and asked the following:

Good evening,

I would first like to acknowledge the teachers and how hard they have worked in order to try and get this year off to a good start for our children. Despite the obstacles, they are trying to help this to go as smoothly as they possibly can.

Unfortunately, the lack of training they received for the technology being utilized with our virtual learners, was the start of the problems, but definitely not the only one. I have a fifth grader and a first grader at home learning remotely at the moment. And while I do understand there are kinks to be worked out in a situation like this, that should have really been taken care of at this point.

I will say that my first grader's situation has improved. It is very disheartening that his year began the way it did - with over 30 children in his class, not being able to have their turns, not having someone who was able to guide them through the technology challenge, not having any activities planned to properly welcome them back. It is already a struggle enough that they're not able to learn the way six year olds need because of what 2020 has brought us, but the way things started off, made it exponentially more difficult. Fortunately, some changes have been made, and Ms. Reeves is doing a fantastic job really trying to make things right for them. She is still bouncing back and forth between two grade levels, so she isn't available on their "off" periods in case someone needs assistance. While I do acknowledge that it isn't feasible for a six year old to sit through an entire day of instruction without breaks, they should still have their teachers available to them during those times in case they are needed, just as the in-person learners do.

As far as things are going with my now fifth grader, we are on week two and it's still a struggle. He spends a great deal of time, mostly during his specials periods, sitting around waiting for attendance to be taken. He has some classes with 40, 50, or even 60 other students. I am aware that the state didn't cap the number of students that were allowed in each class. However, that doesn't mean our district couldn't have done it anyway for the best interest of all of our students and teachers.

In addition, the in-person students have specials last period of the day, which is a shorter class than the rest. However, my child has Writing. That means one of his core classes is shorter for him than his in-person counterparts. He is losing out on time with his teacher to ask questions, complete additional work, etc. Also, during some classes, while he is trying to concentrate, there is so much background noise because of teachers sharing rooms and teaching classes simultaneously, that it is very distracting. It seems that the odds are against him and he isn't being given a fair chance.

I did reach out yesterday morning via email about some of the concerns for my fifth grader mentioned above, but I have not received a response.
I'm very disappointed and trying to understand why there are so many issues. It's unfair to our children learning from home and wasn't supposed to be this way. Their instruction was supposed to be equal to what the children physically attending school were going to receive. We weren't given the information with all that was needed prior to the first day of school. Parents are left confused as they are trying to help. They ask questions during class time because they don't know how to assist their children. It's another interruption and could have been avoided a bit if what was needed was provided ahead of time so everyone felt more prepared. The teachers deserve a professional development day with a Microsoft representative so they can truly learn what is needed without having to figure it out on their own. Now that two weeks have passed and there are still so many problems, something needs to be done to correct it all as soon as possible. Our children need more than what has been provided for them thus far.

Thank you for your time,

Ms. Capitelli responded that a majority of the concerns in this email were already addressed. The District has tutorials on our website for all of the applications like Think Central and Clever. The District also has Michael Minieri one of our Tech Coordinators and Alvin Cheng that have software that can log into your students computers to see what you are seeing. One of the difficulties of the virtual learning is that the people in school cannot see what they are seeing at home and makes it hard to walk through a solution. If anyone has an issue during a class like that please reach out to Mr. Minieri or Mr. Cheng and they will be able to log in and help fix the issue.

Ms. Lisa Moreno stated the following:

Good evening,

I would like to just express to you how happy and excited my girls are every morning to go to school. They love their teachers! It makes us so happy that you were able to make this happen for us. I know from experience how hard virtual learning and teaching is. This was not meant to happen this way. Nothing would match in person learning.

Thank you,

5. Home Instruction

The Superintendent, in consultation with the Director of Special Education, recommends the Board retroactively approve home instruction for student #20-21-02 beginning on Monday, September 14, 2020, for five (5) hours per week with a length of time to be determined. Instruction will be $34 per hour to be provided by Silvergate Prep.

6. Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Curriculum

The Superintendent, in consultation with the Administrative Team, recommends the Board approve the Social Emotional Learning Curriculum (SEL) grades Pre-K through 8 for the 2020 - 2021 school year.

7. Instructional Resource List Additions

The Superintendent, in consultation with the Administrative Team, recommends the Board approve the additions to the Totowa School District Instructional Resource List for the 2020 - 2021 school year as follows:

Digital Resources:

Typing Club	Lujantexashistory.weebly.com
Spectrum ELA	Billofrightsinstitute.org
Battlefield.org	Mathblaster.com
Mycasemaker.org	Mathgametime.com

8. 2020 - 2021 Nursing Services Plan

The Superintendent, in consultation with the Administrative Team, recommends the Board approve the 2020 - 2021 District Nursing Services Plan as per attached.

9. P.T.O. Meetings - 2020 - 2021 School Year

The Superintendent, in consultation with the Administrative Team, recommends the Board approve the P.T.O. meetings for the 2020 - 2021 School Year as follows:

P.T.O. Executive Board Meetings

September 14, 2020, October 5, 2020, November 2, 2020, to be held in the Washington Park School Gymnasium.

January 4, 2021, February 1, 2021, March 1, 2021, April 12, 2021, May 10, 2021, June 10, 2021, to be held in the Washington Park School Media Center.

General Meetings

October 13, 2020, June 7, 2021, to be held in the Washington Park School Gymnasium.
March 9, 2020, to be held in the Memorial School Auditorium.

The P.T.O. is also requesting the use of tables, chairs, and a podium with microphone and chairs for guests spaced 6 feet apart.

10. Use of Facilities - P.T.O. Flower-Palooza Mum Sale

The Superintendent, in consultation with the Administrative Team, recommends the Board approve the request of the Totowa P.T.O. Flower-Palooza Mum Sale Committee as follows:

Distribute Orders
Thursday, October 1, 2020 Washington Park School Field 2:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.

Motion for approval of item 5-10

MOTION: Mr. Reynoso
SECONDED: Ms. Alesandrelli
VOTE: Unanimous

11. Informational

Opening of Schools

Back to School Night

Dates for Your Information

Oct. 21 Board of Education Meeting - WPS 7:00 P.M.

Attachments:

Program:

All About Kindergarten

12. Committee Reports

Mr. Guarneri said committee meetings were not held.

13. Executive Session

A request for executive session was made to discuss personnel matters and other business excluded from the Open Public Meeting by Law. The Board entered executive session at 7:48 p.m.

Mr. Reddin said, in Executive Session the Board will be discussing personnel and legal matters. The discussion will last approximately thirty-five (35) minutes and no action will be taken.

Motion for approval of item 13

MOTION: Mr. Bierach
SECONDED: Ms. DeCeglie
VOTE: Unanimous

The Board returned from executive session at 8:34 P.M.

14. Substitute Teachers

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following substitute teachers submitted by the Substitute Registry:

Priority I
Hodges, Barbara A.
Priority II
Budinsky, Katherine Julia
Hoeland, Janet M.
Mari, Amirah Doleh
Noriega, Aaron G.

15. Appointment Revision - Social Studies Teacher

The Superintendent, in consultation with the Administrative Team, recommends the Board approve a revision to the appointment of Ms. Lindsey Castaldo to the position of Social Studies grade 6 teacher for the 2020 - 2021 school year beginning on Monday, October 19, 2020. Ms. Castaldo will be placed on MA Step - 1 $57,235 of the contracted teacher salary guide.

16. Approval - Family First Coronavirus Response Act

The Superintendent, in consultation with the Administrative Team, recommends the Board approve a Family First Coronavirus Response Act Leave for Cristina Romer beginning Wednesday, September 2, 2020, for an undetermined amount of time. Ms. Romer will be paid for ten (10) days from Tuesday, September 8, 2020, through Monday, September 21, 2020.

17. Reassignment - Jennifer Reeves

The Superintendent, in consultation with the Administrative Team, recommends the Board approve the reassignment of Jennifer Reeves from Reading Specialist to Grade 1-2 Teacher virtual for the 2020 - 2021 school year.

18. Paid Sick Leave

Pursuant to the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, FFCRA, the Superintendent recommends to the Board the approval of ten (10) days paid sick leave to the following staff members:

Debra Antonucci	Antoinette Armagno
Nuria Cordoba	Yolanda Felix
Mirna Polibio	Carly Schwartz
Milagros Tea	Meredith Warburton
Stephanie Yennie	

19. Approval - Family First Coronavirus Response Act

The Superintendent, in consultation with the Administrative Team, recommends the Board approve a Family First Coronavirus Response Act Leave for Joseph D'Amelio. Mr. D'Amelio will be paid for four (4) days from Tuesday, September 22, 2020, through Friday, September 25, 2020.

Motion for approval of item 14-19

MOTION: Mr. Kerwin
SECONDED: Ms. DeCeglie
VOTE: Unanimous

20. Approval of Minutes- August 19, 2020 – Regular Meeting

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board accept the minutes of the meeting of August 19, 2020 as presented.

21. Approval of Minutes- September 2, 2020 – Regular Meeting

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board accept the minutes of the meeting of September 2, 2020 as presented.

Motion for approval of item 20-21

MOTION: Mr. Tangora
SECONDED: Ms. Alesandrelli
VOTE: Unanimous

22. Approval of Minutes- August 19, 2020 – Executive Session

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board accept the minutes of the Executive Session during the meeting of August 19, 2020 as presented.

23. Approval of Minutes- September 2, 2020 – Executive Session

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board accept the minutes of the Executive Session during the meeting of September 2, 2020 as presented.

Motion for approval of item 22-23

MOTION: Mr. Kerwin
SECONDED: Mr. Tangora
VOTE: Unanimous

24. Approval of Bills List – September 23, 2020

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board accept the September 23, 2020 Bills List as presented.

25. Acceptance of Financial Status Report – June Adjusted

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary recommends the Board accept the Financial Status Report for the month of June 2020 Adjusted, as presented.

26. Monthly Financial Certification of the Board Secretary and the Board of Education – June Adjusted

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/ Board Secretary, recommends the Board certify that the major accounts and fund balances in the 2019-2020 budget have not been over expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the year.

27. Acceptance of Bank Reconciliations – June Adjusted

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board accept the Bank Reconciliations for the month of June 2020 Adjusted, as presented.

28. Acceptance of Board Secretary Report – June Adjusted

The Superintendent in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board accept the Board Secretary Report for the month of June 2020 Adjusted, as presented.

29. Acceptance of Treasurer of School Monies Report – June Adjusted

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board accept the Treasurer Report for the month of June 2020 Adjusted, as presented.

30. Acceptance of Financial Summary Report – June Adjusted

The Superintendent in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board accept the Financial Summary Report for the month of June 2020 Adjusted, as presented.

31. Approval of Line Item Budget Transfers – June Adjusted

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board approve the following line item budget transfer for the month of June 2020 Adjusted, as presented. (See Attachment #1 Monthly Transfer Report)

32. Acceptance of Revenue Report – June Adjusted

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board accept the Revenue Report for the month of June 2020 Adjusted, as presented.

33. Acceptance of Financial Status Report – August

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary recommends the Board accept the Financial Status Report for the month of August 2020, as presented.

34. Monthly Financial Certification of the Board Secretary and the Board of Education – August

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/ Board Secretary, recommends the Board certify that the major accounts and fund balances in the 2020-2021 budget have not been over expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the year.

35. Acceptance of Bank Reconciliations – August

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board accept the Bank Reconciliations for the month of August 2020, as presented.

36. Acceptance of Board Secretary Report – August

The Superintendent in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board accept the Board Secretary Report for the month of August 2020, as presented.

37. Acceptance of Treasurer of School Monies Report – August

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board accept the Treasurer Report for the month of August 2020, as presented.

38. Acceptance of Financial Summary Report – August

The Superintendent in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board accept the Financial Summary Report for the month of August 2020, as presented.

39. Approval of Line Item Budget Transfers – August

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board approve the following line item budget transfer for the month of August 2020, as presented. (See Attachment #2 Monthly Transfer Report)

40. Acceptance of Revenue Report – August

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board accept the Revenue Report for the month of August 2020, as presented.

41. Approval of Payment of Cafeteria Invoices

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/ Board Secretary, recommends the Board approve payment of the following cafeteria invoices.

Vendor	Description	Check #	Amount
Pomptonian	Invoice 912090420	1397	$ 2,033.17
Advanced Septic Service	Invoice 15089	1398	$ 175.00
Pomptonian	Invoice 912091120	1399	$ 1,699.97

42. Unemployment Compensation Account

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends that the Board retroactively approve check #218 from the school district's Unemployment Compensation Account in the amount of $333.00 to the State of New Jersey, Department of Labor Division of Employer Accounts for chargeable benefits.

43. Approval of Out of District Contracts 2020-2021

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board approve the out of district contract, for student OD192001, to South Bergen Jointure Commission – Maywood Campus for the 2020-2021 school year in the amount of $58,950.

44. Approval of ESEA - Title I Salary & Benefits

The Superintendent, in consultation with the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board approve the following ESEA Title I funds in the amount of $113,273.00 for the salary/benefits for Ms. Jennifer Reeves, Memorial School Teacher for an Instructional Pull Out Program/Reading Specialist. This amount represents 100% of salary and benefits for Ms. Reeves. Salary will be charged to account 20-231-100-100-000-000-050 and benefits will be charged to 20 -231-200-200-000-000-050.

45. Approval of ESEA - Title I Salary & Benefits

The Superintendent, in consultation with the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board approve the following ESEA Title I funds in the amount of $19,337.00 for the salary/benefits for Ms. Kathleen Peterson, Washington Park School Teacher for an Instructional Pull Out Program in Leap/Reading Specialist. This amount represents 20% of salary and benefits for Ms. Peterson. Salary will be charged to account 20-231-100-100-000-000-060 and benefits will be charged to 20-231-200-200-000-000-060.

46. Approval of ESEA - Title I Salary & Benefits

The Superintendent, in consultation with the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board approve the following ESEA Title I funds in the amount of $1,000.00 for the salary/benefits for Ms. Debra Barone, Guidance Counselor for the counseling of McKinney Vento students. This amount represents 1% of salary and benefits for Ms. Barone. Salary will be charged to account 20-231-100-100-000-000-060 and benefits will be charged to 20-231-200-200-000-000 -060.

47. Approval of ESEA - Title I SIA Salary & Benefits

The Superintendent, in consultation with the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board approve the following ESEA Title I SIA funds in the amount of $19,800.00 for the salary/benefits for Ms. Donna Trommelen, Washington Park School Teacher for an Instructional Pull Out Program in Mathematics. This amount represents 16% of salary and benefits for Ms. Trommelen. Salary will be charged to account 20-231-100-100-000-000-060 and benefits will be charged to 20-231-200-200-000-000-060.

48. Approval of ESEA - Title II Salary & Benefits

The Superintendent, in consultation with the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board approve the following ESEA Title II funds in the amount of $33,614.00 for the salary/benefits for Ms. Kathleen Peterson, Washington Park School Teacher to reduce class sizes at the elementary school. This amount represents 35% of salary and benefit for Ms. Peterson. Salary will be charged to account 20-270-100-100-000-001-060 and benefits will be charged to 20-270-200 -200-000-000-060.

49. Approval of Nonpublic Technology Agreement

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board approve the agreement to purchase Nonpublic Technology for The Academy of St. James in accordance with "Guidelines for Administering the New Jersey Nonpublic Technology Initiative Program". Purchases will be made throughout the year in accordance to the guidance listed above.

50. Approval of Nonpublic Security Agreement

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board approve the agreement to purchase Nonpublic Security equipment for The Academy of St. James in accordance with "The Nonpublic School Security Program Guidelines". Purchases will be made throughout the year in accordance to the guidance listed above.

51. Approval of 2020-2021 Transportation Contract NRESC

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends that the Board retroactively approve the 2020-2021 school year transportation contract with North Region Educational Services Commission, Wayne as follows:

Route #	School	Contractor	Cost Per Route	Date
Q200	PG Chambers	D&M Tours	$ 9,950.00+298.50	7/13/20-8/14/20

52. Approval of Additional Appropriations (Covid-19)

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board approve the following additional appropriations do to the Covid-19 pandemic.

1. School Specialty	PO 21-0920	$122.78	Face Shields & Aprons
2. American Papery & Supply	PO 21-0946	$5,769.60	Sanitizer & Soap Dispensers
3. DiDio Electric	PO 21-0945	$2,500.00	220V Line do to Quarantine Rm
4. RIS Construction	PO 21-0951	$74,000.00	Poly Carbonate Desk Shields
5. Accurate Door & Hardware	PO 21-1020	$1,750.00	Main Office Sneeze Guards
6. American Paper & Supply	PO 21-1030	$393.44	Gloves
7. Amazon	PO 21-1061	$104.97	Face Shields
8. American Paper & Supply	PO 21-1068	$1,884.12	
9. American Paper & Supply	PO 21-1070	$136.85	

53. Approval of 2020-2021 Agreement with NRESC Non-Public Nursing

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board approve the contract with NRESC to provide a Registered School Nurse, as needed, on a substitute basis for the 2020-2021 school year based upon state appropriate funds.

Motion for approval of item 24-53

MOTION: Mr. Reynoso
SECONDED: Ms. DeCeglie
VOTE: Unanimous

54. Old Business

There was no old business.

55. New Business

There was no new business.

56. Hearing and Petition of Citizens.

Mr. Guarneri asked Mr. Varcadipane if there were any other citizens that wished to be heard. Mr. Varcadipane stated there were.

Ms. Carla Grant stated:

Please address if the schedule will be adjust for the virtual students to address the time discrepancy.

Ms. Laura Ardis asked:

We were wondering why our email was not commented to or addressed.
Thank you!

Ms. Capitelli stated that all of the comments were addressed. If anyone has any other comments questions or needs more clarification please feel free to call administration.

57. Other Matters of a Timely Nature

There were no other matters of a timely nature.

58. Adjournment

Upon motion by Mr. Reynoso and seconded by Mr. Tangora this meeting was adjourned at 8:02 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Vincent Varcadipane
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary