

RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF April 25, 2016

A regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on Monday evening, April 25, 2016 in the High School Cafeteria. Meeting was called to order by President McLean at 7:30 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

On roll call the following members were present: Mrs. Ahmed, Mr. Arce, Mr. Chu, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Lanni, Mrs. Librera, Mr. Mazone, Mr. Recine, and Mr. McLean.

Also present were Mr. Hurley and Mr. Kelly.

N.J. OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meeting of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Rutherford Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place posted on the bulletin board outside the Borough Clerk's Office, mailed to the *Herald*, *South Bergenite*, and the *Record* newspapers, and filed with the Borough Clerk. Hard copies of the agenda are available in the meeting room and the agenda is posted electronically on the district's website at www.rutherfordschools.org.

TAPING AND BROADCASTING OF MEETINGS

Regular meetings of the Rutherford Board of Education will be broadcast without editing during a two-hour segment, as limited by Comcast's time constraints, on Tuesday evenings at 8:00 p.m. on the Comcast public access channel and on FiOS Channel 38. A video of the meeting can also be viewed on our website, www.rutherfordschools.org. The video link can be found by opening the Board of Education link and clicking on "Public Meetings" and then "Videos". Any member of the public who wishes to view a DVD of the meeting can make that request in writing to the board secretary.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Work Session Meeting – April 4, 2016
Executive Session Meeting – April 4, 2016

No corrections. Minutes approved as presented.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

WASHINGTON SCHOOL CHARACTER EDUCATION

Mr. Bill Mulcahy, Washington School Principal, introduced Mr. John Randazzo, who leads the school's Character Education program and other staff involved in the initiative, as well as members of the Grade 3 class. The team presented an outline of the school's Character Education program, demonstrating the year-long focus on character development in an elementary school environment.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2016/2017 BUDGET

Mr. Kelly and Mr. Hurley led the public hearing of the highlights of the 2016/2017 budget.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Mr. Hurley reported on the following:

- He thanked Mr. Mulcahy and the staff and students of Washington School, many of whom turned out for tonight's meeting, for the presentation of Character Education at Washington School.
- He noted that he had attended the dedication of the planting of a new tree at Union School in memory of Mr. Thom Casadonte, adding that the ceremony was very well attended, which spoke well of the respect of the community for Mr. Casadonte.
- Lead testing within the district will proceed shortly, but, given the recent national and local concern for lead contaminants found in water supplies, testing companies are overwhelmed with requests for testing. He promised to keep the community apprised of the process and the results.
- The transition and transportation committees continue to meet and address their respective issues. Reports from each committee are expected in the coming weeks.
- The elementary schools are looking to create a therapeutic program, one that would assist students suffering with school anxieties.
- PARCC testing has proceeded as planned, with the exception of a significant glitch on Pearson's part pre-empted testing for a full day. This year's refusals to participate, which earlier had been lower than last year's, have increased to the point that there are an equal number this year to last year.
- He has scheduled the final 2015/2016 Coffee with the Superintendent and Community Roundtable events, for May 14 and May 26, respectively.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT:

Mr. McLean reminded the Board that their Superintendent's Evaluation forms are due no later than May 9. He also thanked the public for their input.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC (Agenda Items Only)

8:35 P.M.

Mr. Ray Tomczak thanked the teachers present for all of their service, noting that they consistently exceed his expectations and he hopes that in the current contract negotiations, the Board will recognize their contributions. He further expressed concerns about safety at Union School (as several members of his family have sustained injuries by tripping over uneven sidewalks or macadam), the NJ Transit bus stop in front of the school and the lack of a drop-off area on Belford Avenue. Mr. Hurley responded that the administration is aware of these issues, and more, and is working to address. In terms of the macadam, as has been communicated to Mr. Tomczak on numerous occasions, the district will be working with the DPW to address, but getting it fixed will require warmer weather and the school to be closed.

Mr. Haobo Lai, with regard to the budget presentation, made several suggestions as to better analyzing the out-of-district tuition over time as well as the District Factor Group analysis.

Mr. Tom Weber spoke of the new policy on Gender Identity and Expression, read a letter aloud that had previously been sent to Mr. Hurley and the members of the Board, and spoke of the potential of the policy to infringe on the rights and safety of his own children, as well as others. Mr. Hurley responded that the policy is consistent with federal and state laws and is intended to provide guidance to administrators that meets the standards of the laws and to protect all students and staff.

Mr. Frank Wilson spoke of the 2015/2016 and 2016/2017 budgets, noting that, between the two years, the local tax levy has increased by approximately \$2.5 million. He further insisted that all Board members should understand the budget, by line, before voting to approve it. He asked for an understanding of increases in certain line items. He questioned longevity provided to a contracted employee.

NEW BUSINESS (Action to be Taken)

PERSONNEL:

Motion by Mrs. Ahmed, seconded by Mr. Arce to move the following resignations, retirements, salary adjustments, reassignments, appointments, etc., as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools, pending approval from the State Department of Education, subject to the New Jersey Criminal Background Check and other legal requirements.

Approved by Voice Vote. [9-0-0]

Motion by Mrs. Ahmed, seconded by Mr. Chu to approve Personnel Items #1 thru #8.

ROBERT HEMMEL

1. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION to accept the retirement of Robert Hemmel, art teacher at Rutherford High School, with regret, effective June 30, 2016.

JASON KILLIAN

2. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION to accept the resignation of Jason Killian, vice principal of the Kindergarten Center, effective June 30, 2016.

JENNIFER PEEPLES

3. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION to accept the resignation of Jennifer Peeples, lunch monitor at the Kindergarten Center, effective April 29, 2016.

KATHY MASBANG

4. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION to accept the resignation of Kathy Masbang, unpaid intern in the Business Office effective April 15, 2016.

RACHEL MEJIAS

5. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION to approve a disability leave with pay for Rachel Mejias, elementary teacher at Washington School, effective September 1, 2016 through (20) days following the birth of her baby to be followed by a child rearing leave of absence under the Family Leave Act without pay through December 2, 2016.

HOME INSTRUCTORS

6. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION to approve the following as home instructors for the 2015-2016 school year at the hourly rate of \$35.00:

Nicole Uryniak
Laura Pashkowsky

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

7. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION to approve the following substitute teachers for the 2015-2016 school year effective April 26, 2016 at the per diem rate of \$80.00 and in accordance with law:

Marisa Ianuzzi

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER ASSISTANTS

8. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION to approve the following substitute teacher assistants for the 2015-2016 school year effective April 26, 2016 at the hourly rate of \$10.00:

Marisa Ianuzzi

Roll Call Vote on Personnel Items # 1 thru #8:

Mrs. Ahmed – aye	Mrs. Jones – aye	Mr. Mazone – aye
Mr. Arce – aye	Mrs. Lanni – aye	Mr. Recine – aye
Mr. Chu – aye	Mrs. Librera – aye	Mr. McLean – aye

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION:

Motion by Mrs. Lanni, seconded by Mrs. Jones to approve Curriculum & Instruction Items #1 thru #5.

HOME INSTRUCTION

1. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION to approve home instruction for the following student (name on file in the Office of the Superintendent):

Student #13162 – effective April 18, 2016

HARASSMENT/INTIMIDATION
BULLYING DECISION

2. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION to affirm the Superintendent’s decision in HIB investigation #2015-18, for the reasons set forth in the Superintendent’s decision to the students’ parents, and directs the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to transmit a copy of the Board’s decision to the affected students’ parents.

FIELD TRIPS

3. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION to approve the attached list of Field Trips for the 2015-2016 school year.

BEFORE CARE/AFTER CARE

4. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION to approve the YMCA as the Before Care/After Care program service provider for the Rutherford Public Schools effective July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017.

CURRICULUM GUIDES

5. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION to approve the following revised curriculum guides:

- A. Computer Technology/Business Education
Elementary Keyboarding – Grade 3
- B. Fine, Practical, and Performing Arts
Band and Choir Combined – Grades 9-12
- C. Social Studies
Ancient Civilizations – Grade 6

Roll Call Vote on Curriculum & Instruction Items # 1 thru #5:

Mrs. Ahmed – aye	Mrs. Jones – aye	Mr. Mazone – aye
Mr . Arce – aye	Mrs. Lanni – aye	Mr. Recine – aye
Mr. Chu – aye	Mrs. Librera – aye	Mr. McLean – aye

FINANCE:

Motion by Mrs. Librera, seconded by Mr. Ahmed to approve Finance Items # 1 thru #6.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

1. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION that the bills listed below be approved.

Accounts Payable	332,551.35
Offline Checks	437,908.52
Food Service Checks	29,117.05
Payroll	1,280,482.62
Student Activities	<u>34,330.48</u>
Total	2,114,390.02

SECY/TREAS REPORT
FEBRUARY 2016

2. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION that it has received and accepts the financial reports of the Secretary and Treasurer of School Monies for the month ending February 29, 2016, and certifies that the reports indicate that no major account or fund is over expended in violation of NJAC 6:20-2.13 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the school year.

Summary pages are included in the official minute book and a detailed summary is on file in the office of the Board Secretary.

BUDGET
TRANSFERS

3. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION to approve budget line transfers for the period February 1, 2016 through February 29, 2016 as attached.

BCSSSD CONTRACT

4. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION to contract for services covered under the Chapter 192/193 programs to non-public schools with the Bergen County Special Services School District for the 2016-2017 school year.

HCESC CONTRACT

5. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION **WHEREAS**, the Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission ("HCESC"), as Lead Agency for the HCESC cooperative pricing system (system identifier 34HUNCCP), has awarded a contract for proprietary Apple technology products (bid number HCESC-TEC-16-01), effective March 25, 2016 following the public solicitation of sealed bids pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-15, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-13 and N.J.A.C. 5:34-9.1; and

WHEREAS, the Rutherford Board of Education is a member of the HCESC cooperative pricing system and is authorized to make purchases from contracts awarded by the HCESC pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.1 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Apple technology products covered by the HCESC contract sought by the Rutherford Board of Education are of such a specialized nature that only such products will meet the needs of the Rutherford Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, the Rutherford Board of Education has heavily invested time and funds into the acquisition and integration of Apple products in local operations that will be wasted if non-Apple products were used to supplement the existing technology; and

WHEREAS, the use of non-Apple products would require either the wholesale replacement of the technology currently used by the Rutherford Board of Education or an unsupportable level of training, support and maintenance services that would utterly defeat the purpose of the public contracting laws; Rutherford Board of Education hereby authorizes the purchase of proprietary Apple technology products through HCESC Contract (HCESC-TEC-16-01) from *Apple, Inc. 5505 W. Parmer Lane, MS 578-ROA Austin, TX 78727-6524*, for the following items:

- Desktop computers
- Laptop computers
- iPads
- iOS apps
- Software

APPROVAL OF BUDGET
2016-2017

6. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION that the final School District Budget be approved for the 2016/2017 school year as follows:

General Fund	\$42,209,203
Special Revenue Funds	817,017
Debt Service	<u>1,466,250</u>
Total	\$44,492,470

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that for funding the School District budget for the 2016/2017 school year, the following are the amounts necessary to be raised by local taxation:

General Fund	\$39,067,666
Debt Service Fund	<u>1,466,250</u>
Total	\$40,533,916

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 2016/2017 school year budget includes automatic adjustments for an increase in health care costs (\$99,228), in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-39(e).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that included in budget line 620, Budgeted Withdrawal from Capital Reserve – Excess Costs & Other Capital Projects, is \$62,307 for other capital project costs, as follows:

1. Renovation of portable building at Rutherford High School
2. Remediation of basement vault ceiling at the Lincoln Annex
3. Remediation of sidewalks at Washington Elementary School

The total cost of these projects is \$62,450 which represents expenditures for construction elements or projects that are in addition

to the facilities efficiency standards determined by the Commissioner as necessary to achieve the core curriculum content standards.

Mr. McLean and Mrs. Librera spoke of the Board’s and Finance Committee’s active involvement in the budget development process, noting that they are confident the budget, as presented, reflects the Board’s goals and is an accurate representation of the Board’s intentions.

Roll Call Vote on Finance Items #1 thru #6:

Mrs. Ahmed – aye	Mrs. Jones – aye	Mr. Mazone – aye
Mr . Arce – aye	Mrs. Lanni – aye	Mr. Recine – aye
Mr. Chu – aye	Mrs. Librera – aye	Mr. McLean – aye

POLICY:

Motion by Mr. Chu, seconded by Mrs. Lanni to approve Policy Items #1 thru #9.

NONDISCRIMINATION/
AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

1. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION to approve the following revisions to Policy #2224 Nondiscrimination/Affirmative Action on second reading. (See attached.)

NONDISCRIMINATION/
AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

2. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION to approve the following revisions to Policy #4111.1 Nondiscrimination/Affirmative Action on second reading. (See attached.)

NONDISCRIMINATION/
AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

3. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION to approve the following revisions to Policy #4211.1 Nondiscrimination/Affirmative Action on second reading. (See attached.)

ATTENDANCE

4. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION to approve the following revisions to Policy #4151.2 Attendance on second reading. (See attached.)

PHOTOGRAPHS OF PUPILS

5. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION to approve the following revisions to Policy #5145.5 Photographs of Pupils on second reading. (See attached.)

GENDER IDENTITY AND
EXPRESSION

6. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION to approve the following new Policy #5145.7 Gender Identity and Expression on second reading. (See attached.)

VOTING METHOD

7. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION to approve the following revision to Policy #9325-4 Voting Method on second reading. (See attached.)

SCHOOL CLEARING
FOLLOWING CRISIS SITUATION

8. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION to approve the following new regulation #R6114 School Clearing Following Crisis Situation on second reading. (See attached.)

ELECTRONIC HOMEWORK
POSTING GUIDELINES

9. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUTHERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION to approve the following revisions to Regulation #R6154 Electronic Homework Posting Guidelines on second reading. (See attached.)

Roll Call Vote on Policy Items # 1 thru #9:

Mrs. Ahmed – aye	Mrs. Jones – aye	Mr. Mazone – aye
Mr. Arce – aye	Mrs. Lanni – aye	Mr. Recine – aye
Mr. Chu – aye	Mrs. Librera – aye	Mr. McLean – aye

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS: None.

OLD BUSINESS: (No action to be Taken) None.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

Mrs. Jones reported on one NJDOE initiative proposing that Middle School students start the school day no earlier than 8:30 am. Mr. Hurley noted that this has been a topic of ongoing discussion.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: 9:34 P.M. No one spoke.

Meeting closed to the public at 9:34 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by Mrs. Librera, seconded by MrS. Arce, that an Executive Session be held at 9:35 P.M. for the purpose of discussing Student Matters and Contract Negotiations. Action will not be taken. The Board expects to return within 40 minutes.

Approved by Voice Vote. [9-0-0]

The Board returned at 10:06 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Mr. Recine, seconded by Mr. Mazone, that the meeting be adjourned at 10:06 P.M.

Approved by Voice Vote. [9-0-0]

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph P. Kelly
Business Administrator/Board Secretary