



LIVINGSTON BOARD OF EDUCATION WORKSHOP/VOTING MEETING MINUTES

November 12, 2024

Executive Session - Administration Building - 6:45 p.m.

Public Session - Administration Building - 7:00 p.m.

A **Workshop/Voting Meeting** of the Livingston Board of Education was held on this date in the large conference room in the Administration Building and via Zoom and a Facebook Livestream. The meeting was called to order at 6:46 p.m. by Pamela Chirls, Board President, who announced that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by amendment to notice approved at the Board's reorganization meeting on January 3, 2024 and posted at the Board of Education office and communicated to *The Star Ledger*, *West Essex Tribune*, *TAPinto Livingston* and the Livingston Township Clerk.

Members Present: Jenissa Arnette, Pamela Chirls, Seth Cohen, Fang Gong, Parul Khemka and Darcy Bialick

Also in Attendance: Dr. Daniel Fishbein, Jessica Rapp, Lisa Capone-Steiger, Mark Stern, Susan Burman and Joann Goldberg

Mr. Cohen moved the following:

Executive Session

Whereas, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-11, permits the Board of Education to meet in closed session to discuss certain matters; now, therefore be it

Resolved, that the Livingston Board of Education adjourns to closed session to discuss:

- student matters

Action may be taken upon return to the public session. The full length of the meeting is anticipated to be approximately 15 minutes; and be it

Further Resolved, the minutes of this closed session be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

Mrs. Khemka seconded the motion.

Vote all in favor.

At 7:00 p.m., Mrs. Chirls reconvened the public meeting.

Superintendent's Report

LPS Assessment Update

Mrs. Natalie Topylko and Ms. Laura DeNicola provided the annual assessment update for students who took the AP, SAT and ACT exams during the 2023-2024 school year by highlighting the number of students who took the exams, our five year score summary and the scoring breakdown for the most recent exams. The full presentation is available on our website.

Dr. Fishbein reported that last night the Board and Town Council had a joint meeting where they discussed planned and in progress high density housing in town and how it will impact our schools, school enrollment, progress with the long range facilities plan, the transfer of the Monmouth Court Campus to the LBOE, a possible bus depot, the town's crosswalk and sidewalk grants and additional reserved parking for staff at LHS.

Dr. Fishbein continued that yesterday, the teachers participated in professional development on the subject of AI and that last week, four high school students with Rob Rolling were involved in a webcast interview about the impact of AI on the future.

Board Reports

Board Goals

Dr. Fishbein read through the Board Goals for the 2024-2025 school year, of which some will continue for a longer term:

- The Board will develop a two-year schedule and process for hiring a permanent superintendent, communicating with stakeholders throughout the process.
- The Board will work with the district administration to develop a 2025-26 school-year budget that reflects the Board's Budget Goals.
- The Board will work with the district administration to establish a facility improvement plan based on the 2023/2024 LRFP, culminating with a date for a referendum.

Board Budget Goals

Dr. Fishbein read through the Board's Budget Goals for the 2024-2025 school year which will provide focus for the administration as we enter budget season:

- Based on an updated facility usage plan incorporating board, stakeholder, and community input and adhering to class size guidelines, develop a long-range facility plan and timeline to address enrollment increases and facility constraints.
- Support a five-year curriculum writing cycle to keep research and evidence-based programs and materials current, relevant, and rigorous; initiate technology solutions to drive consistency, collaboration, and communication; and provide professional development to support staff, students, and other stakeholders.
- Use the Equity Audit and community input to provide community-supported, research- and evidence-based programs and activities to both students and staff to enhance the school environment to embrace what makes our community unique and special.
- Implement district-wide security improvements necessary to ensure the safety and security of all students, staff, and district property.
- Continue to provide access to high-quality programs, services, and resources aligned to external standards to support LHS students in their high school planning, post-graduation planning, and college application process.

Student Representative's Report

Miss Bialick reported, in part, the following: "The girls cross country team had a historic season winning the Super Essex Conference and the Essex Conference Championships and competing in the Group 4 State Meet this weekend. The girls soccer team recently defeated Ridgewood in the sectional tournament. These games have been very well attended due to new scheduling initiatives and collaboration with the administration. These policies allowed attendance at yesterday's game against Ridgewood to skyrocket, with nearly every seat filled on the home bleachers for the entire first half of the game. This has been major positive progress on school spirit and athletic attendance. This additional attendance has also been a huge win for the girls sports programs which can be overlooked in less equitable districts. This fact reminds the student body to be grateful for all the ongoing work of the Board of Education to promote diversity, equity and inclusion and we are fortunate to live in a district that cares so much about ensuring equal opportunities and treatments for all students. We have talked a lot recently about new equity programs at these meetings, and I would just like to say, as a student who has been in the district since 2012 the progress has been influential, and we thank you for your dedication."

Public Comment

Public Comment closed as a hand was raised through the webinar.

Mrs. Khemka made a motion to reopen public comment and Ms. Arnette seconded the motion.

Vote all in favor.

An eleven year old homeschooled student asked if the policy currently in place that does not allow homeschooled students who live in town to participate in extracurricular activities could be changed so that they could participate.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPROVAL

PROGRAM/CURRICULUM

Mr. Cohen moved the following:

1.1 Artificial Intelligence Innovation in Education Competitive Grant

Resolved, that the Livingston Board of Education authorizes the district to submit an application for the **Artificial Intelligence (AI) Innovation in Education Competitive Grant**. The grant will cover the costs associated with the implementation of a program for 1) Teaching With AI using generative AI tools to empower educators through the augmentation of their existing pedagogical and content knowledge, and 2) Teaching About AI through the development of innovative AI literacy curricula and applied learning experiences to build student understanding and hands on skills with generative AI.

1.2 Approval of District Goals

Resolved, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the district goals for the 2024-2025 school year as shown on **Attachment A**.

Ms. Arnette seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE - Ayes - Ms. Arnette, Mr. Cohen, Mrs. Gong, Mrs. Khemka, Mrs. Chirls
Nays - None

BUSINESS

Mr. Cohen moved the following:

3.1 Policies and Regulations

Resolved, that the Livingston of Education approves the following Regulation for first reading:

Regulation #5200 - Attendance (M) (with revisions)

Mrs. Khemka seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE - Ayes - Ms. Arnette, Mr. Cohen, Mrs. Gong, Mrs. Khemka, Mrs. Chirls
Nayes - None

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Cohen moved the following:

5.1 HIB Report

Resolved, that the Livingston Board of Education accepts the findings of HIB cases.

Mrs. Khemka seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE - Ayes - Ms. Arnette, Mr. Cohen, Mrs. Gong, Mrs. Khemka, Mrs. Chirls
Nayes - None

Old Business

Due to a professional conflict on December 10, Mr. Cohen asked if the meeting could be moved to either Monday or Wednesday of that week. Everyone agreed that December 11 would work.

Mrs. Khemka made a motion to move the December 10, 2024 LBOE Voting Meeting to December 11, 2024.

Mr. Cohen seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE - Ayes - Ms. Arnette, Mr. Cohen, Mrs. Gong, Mrs. Khemka, Mrs. Chirls
Nayes - None

New Business

There was no new business.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:48 p.m., Mr. Cohen made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mrs. Khemka seconded the motion.

Vote all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



Jessica Rapp
Board Secretary