



## **LIVINGSTON BOARD OF EDUCATION VOTING MEETING AGENDA**

Wednesday, September 1, 2021

Public Session - Virtual Meeting Via Zoom and Facebook Live – 7:00 p.m.

*This is a public meeting of the Board of Education. The Livingston Board of Education will be video recording and posting its open public meetings on the district website. The Board reserves the right to edit the videotape prior to posting to protect the privacy of students and staff.*

*The Board's Bylaw #0168 allows videotaping and livestreaming of public meetings with prior approval from the Board Secretary. Any member of the public may record the proceedings of a public meeting of the Board in a manner that does not interrupt the proceedings, inhibit the conduct of the meeting, distract Board members or other observers present at the meeting, or violate the privacy of students and staff. The Board will permit the use of tape recorder(s), video camera(s) or live streaming only when notice of such intended use has been given to the Board Secretary five days in advance of the meeting. Any camera(s) must be operated in an inconspicuous location in the meeting room. The Board reserves the right to request a copy of the tape. The presiding officer shall determine when any recording device interferes with the conduct of a Board meeting and may order that an interfering device be removed.*

***While the Board of Education discourages the videotaping/livestreaming of students without written parental consent, public meetings are not subject to the same restrictions as other school events. Please be aware that you and your children may be videotaped or livestreamed as a result of your participation at this meeting.***

*In accordance with Policy #9131, the Livingston Board of Education members, district administration, and staff will treat students, parents/guardians and other members of the public with respect and expect the same consideration in return. The district is committed to maintaining orderly educational and administrative processes in keeping schools and administrative offices free from disruptions and preventing unauthorized persons from entering school/district grounds.*

### **I. OPEN SESSION**

#### **A. Call to Order – Ms. Samantha Messer, President**

#### **B. Reading of Meeting Notice**

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by amendment to notice approved at the Board's reorganization meeting on January 4, 2021 and posted at the Board of Education office and communicated to *The Star Ledger*, *West Essex Tribune*, *TAPinto Livingston* and the Livingston Township Clerk.

#### **C. Pledge of Allegiance / Roll Call**

#### **D. Superintendent's Report**

#### **E. Board Reports**

##### **1. Board Size**

## **F. Public Input on Agenda Items ~ up to 15 minutes**

An excerpt from Policy #0167 adopted on January 10, 2011 and reviewed on March 4, 2013 states that The Board of Education recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on school matters of community interest.

Public participation shall be governed by the following rules:

1. A participant must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface comments by an announcement of his/her name, place of residence, and group affiliation, if appropriate;
2. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to three minutes' duration;
3. No participant may speak more than once on the same topic until all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard;
4. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no participant may address or question Board members individually.

The portion of the meeting during which the participation of the public is invited shall be limited to fifteen minutes, or at the discretion of the presiding officer.

## **II. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPROVAL**

### **3. BUSINESS**

The Superintendent recommends the following:

#### **3.1 Resolution to Add Question Regarding Board Size**

**3.1a Resolved**, upon the recommendation of the Livingston Board of Education to not place a resolution on the November 2021 ballot and to keep the number of school board members at five.

**3.1b Resolved**, upon the recommendation of the Livingston Board of Education to increase the number of school board members from five to seven and to have this resolution placed on the November 2021 ballot.

**3.1c Resolved**, upon the recommendation of the Livingston Board of Education to increase the number of school board members from five to nine and to have this resolution placed on the November 2021 ballot.

#### **3.2 Bylaws, Policies & Regulations**

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education abolishes the following policies:

Policy #1648 - Restart & Recovery Plan (M)

Policy #1648.02 - Remote Learning Options for Families (M)

Policy #1648.03 - Restart & Recovery Plan - Full-Time Remote Instruction (M)

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education suspends Bylaw #0131 for this meeting and adopts the following policy in one reading:

Policy #1648.11 - The Road Forward COVID-19 – Health and Safety (M)

## **ROLL CALL VOTE**

### **5. MISCELLANEOUS**

The Superintendent recommends the following:

#### **5.1 HIB Report**

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

## **ROLL CALL VOTE**

September 1, 2021

## **G. Public Comment ~ up to 15 minutes**

An excerpt from Policy #0167 adopted on January 10, 2011 and reviewed on March 4, 2013 states that The Board of Education recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on school matters of community interest.

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## **H. Old Business**

## **I. New Business**

### **III. ADJOURNMENT**

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

1. Legal Matters
2. Negotiations
3. Personnel

**Whereas**, N.J.S.A. 10:4-1 *et seq.*, also known as the "Sunshine Law," authorizes a public body to meet in executive or private session under certain limited circumstances, and

**Whereas**, said law requires the Board to adopt a resolution at a public hearing before it can meet in such an executive or private session, now, therefore, be it

**Resolved**, by the Livingston Board of Education that:

- (A) It does hereby determine that it is necessary to meet in executive session on September 1, 2021 to discuss the matters stipulated, in conformance with the subsections of said act which are indicated.
1. Matter rendered confidential by federal law, state statute or rule of court.
  2. Matter in which the release of information would impair a right to receive federal funds.
  3. Matter, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy unless the individual concerned shall request in writing that the same be disclosed publicly.
  4. Collective bargaining matter.
  5. Matter involving the purchase, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of banking rates, etc. where it would adversely affect the public interest if discussion were disclosed.
  6. Tactics and techniques utilized in protecting public property where disclosure could impair protection.
  7. Investigation of violations or possible violations of law.
  8. Pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation other than collective bargaining agreement.
  9. Personnel matters unless the individual employees or appointees affected requested that such matter be discussed at a public meeting.
  10. Deliberations occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific civil penalty.
- (B) The matters discussed will be made public when confidentiality is no longer required and formal action pursuant to said discussion shall take place only at a meeting to which the public has been invited.
- (C) No action will be taken.

**PROPOSED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (dates subject to change)**

September 14, 2021 (*workshop*)

September 28, 2021 (*voting*)

- District Nursing Services Plan

October 12, 2021 (*workshop*)

- Public Hearing for District and School HIB Self-Assessment Report
- NJSLA (as per Policy 2610)

October 19, 2021 (*voting*)

- Conference with the Livingston Education Association
- Summer Curriculum Writing Update

November 9, 2021 (*workshop*)

- Board Budget Goals
- Assessment Update

November 23, 2021 (*voting*)

December 7, 2021 (*voting*)

- Comprehensive Annual Financial Report
- New Course Offerings
- Approval of Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (Corrective Action Plan)
- NJQSAC Statement of Assurance
- Bus Evacuation Drills

January 4, 2022 (*Reorganization*)

## 1648.11 THE ROAD FORWARD COVID-19 – HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Board of Education plans to provide full-day, full-time, in-person instruction and operations for the 2021-2022 school year. In June 2021, the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) and the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) worked collaboratively to develop guidance, The Road Forward – Health and Safety Guidance for the 2021-2022 School Year (The Road Forward).

The Road Forward replaces the mandatory anticipated minimum standards outlined in the NJDOE’s “The Road Back – Restart and Recovery Plan for Education” (June 2020) and provides a range of recommendations rather than mandatory standards. These recommendations are meant to assist school districts in implementing protocols to reduce risks to students and staff from COVID-19 while still allowing for full-time learning.

The Board considered many factors as they prepared for the 2021-2022 school year, including the level of COVID-19 transmission in the community at large and in the school community, as well as vaccination coverage rates in both the community at large and the school community.

For the purpose of this Policy, “Order” shall mean any Governor of New Jersey Executive Order, New Jersey State Agency mandate, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance, New Jersey statute, or administrative code requiring compliance by the school district.

The Board considered the recommendations outlined in The Road Forward to develop health and safety protocols. The Board will consider all recommended Orders and comply with all mandatory Orders when developing health and safety protocols and reviewing them periodically. Health and safety protocols will address general health and safety concerns of students, staff members, and visitors.

The absence of one or more of the recommendations outlined in The Road Forward and/or in the school district’s health and safety protocols will not prevent the reopening of the school(s) in the district for full-day in-person operation with all enrolled students and staff members present.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9, schools must be in session for 180 days to receive State Aid. The statute requires that school facilities be provided for at least 180

days during the school year. N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9(b) indicates when a school district is required to close the schools of the district for more than three consecutive school days due to a declared state of emergency, declared public health emergency, or a directive and/or recommendation by the appropriate health agency or officer to institute a public health-related closure, days of virtual or remote instruction commensurate with in-person instruction will count toward the school district's 180-day requirement.

The school district may be confronted with the incidence of COVID-19 positive cases among staff and/or students. If the school district is required to exclude a student, group of students, a class, or multiple classes as a result of possible exposure to COVID-19, while the school itself remains open for in-person instruction, the school district may offer virtual or remote instruction to those students in a manner commensurate with in-person instruction to the extent possible. In circumstances when the school facilities remain open and in-person instruction continues in those classrooms that are not required to quarantine, those days in session will also count toward the school district's 180-day requirement in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9.

The school district anticipates updates to The Road Forward and as such this Policy is subject to review by the Superintendent to ensure compliance with Orders that may arise after Board adoption of this Policy. All revisions to Orders affecting this Policy and corresponding Appendices shall be reviewed by the Superintendent with the Board Attorney, School Physician, and Board of Education, if appropriate. The Superintendent may revise the health and safety protocols included in any Appendix as necessary and appropriate. All students, parents, and staff members will be notified of any changes to school district-developed protocols implemented as a result of this Policy, as appropriate.

Adopted: September 1, 2021