



LIVINGSTON BOARD OF EDUCATION VOTING/WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, September 6, 2022

Executive Session - Hybrid Meeting at Administration Building - 6:15 p.m.

Public Session - Hybrid Meeting at Administration Building - 7:00 p.m.

A **Voting/Workshop 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 Facebook Live. The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. by the Board President, Seth Cohen, who announced that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by amendment to notice approved at the Board's reorganization meeting on January 4, 2022 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, Vineeta Khanna, Samantha Messer and Jeffrey Xu

Also in Attendance: Dr. Matthew Block, Michael Davison, Lisa Capone-Steiger, Mark Stern, Susan Burman and Joann Goldberg

Mrs. Chirls 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:

- personnel and legal matter

Action may be taken upon return to public session. The full length of the meeting is anticipated to be approximately 45 minutes and be it

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

Ms. Arnette seconded the motion.

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

At 7:20 p.m., Mr. Cohen reconvened the public meeting.

There were approximately 45 members of the public and staff watching in person and remotely through the webinar and a Facebook Live Stream.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Block spoke about the successful opening of schools last Thursday.

Dr. Block congratulated the high school football team on winning their game the other evening adding it was sponsored by the Trial Blazers in memory of Jake Kestler.

Dr. Block thanked the parents and community members for their patience concerning traffic around the schools as the year begins.

Dr. Block announced we are holding a school security forum with the Livingston Police and Fire Departments at LHS on Monday, September 12.

Dr. Block continued that last Tuesday we held an evening event about equity and thanked all who participated.

Dr. Block announced we will be rolling out our strategic plan over the next couple of weeks, including a presentation to the community, and that this plan will guide our work going forward for the next five years.

Board Reports

Mr. Cohen announced he has reached out to the Mayor to set up a 5:5 conversation with the Township this fall to discuss our concerns about increasing enrollment and space in our buildings with current and projected housing construction going on around town. Mr. Cohen added they will start with a 2:2 meeting some time this month to set the agenda.

Mrs. Chirls thanked the administration, staff and community members who attended and participated in the equity meeting.

Mrs. Khanna and Ms. Arnette attended the L.I.V.E. event for new staff.

Student Representative's Report

Mr. Xu echoed Dr. Block's statement about the successful opening of school and congratulated the football team on their win against Columbia.

Public Input on Agenda Items ~ up to 15 minutes

There was no public input on agenda items.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPROVAL

BUSINESS

Ms. Messer moved the following:

3.1 Livingston Huaxia Chinese School

Resolved, that the Livingston Board of Education enters into a contract with the Livingston Huaxia Chinese School for the use of facilities at Mount Pleasant Middle School for the 2022-2023 school year.

3.2 Livingston Chinese School

Resolved, that the Livingston Board of Education enters into a contract with the Livingston Chinese School for the use of facilities at Heritage Middle School for the 2022-2023 school year.

3.3 Tuition Students (Receiving)

Resolved, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the acceptance of the following tuition students for the 2022-2023 school year:

Student ID	School	Tuition
328382	Elementary	\$16,078
341159	Elementary	\$16,078

Ms. Arnette seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE - Ayes - Ms. Arnette, Mrs. Chirls, Mr. Cohen, Mrs. Khanna, Ms. Messer
Nays - None

PERSONNEL

Ms. Messer moved the following:

4.1 Resignations

Resolved, that the Livingston Board of Education accepts the resignations of:

Name	Position	Reason	Location	Last Day of Employment
<i>Brian Cappadonna</i>	Custodian	Resignation	Harrison	August 26, 2022
<i>Louella Selby</i>	Teacher of English	Resignation	MPMS	NA
<i>Shawn McPherson</i>	IT Support Specialist	Resignation	CO	October 28, 2022
<i>Erika Forman</i>	Instructional Aide	Resignation	Harrison	June 30, 2022
<i>Rachel Huber</i>	Instructional Aide	Resignation	MPE	September 9, 2022
<i>Toni Lynn Sisbarro</i>	Instructional Aide	Resignation	HMS	June 30, 2022
<i>Bina Beed</i>	Playground Aide	Resignation	RHE	June 30, 2022

**as amended from a previous agenda*

4.2 Leaves of Absences

Resolved, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the leaves of absences of:

Name	Location	Position	LOA w/pay and benefits	LOA w/o pay, but with benefits (if applicable)	Extended LOA w/o pay or benefits	Return Date
Vivianna Parco	BHE	ABA Discrete Trial TA	8/30/2022-10/11/2022	10/12/2022-1/11/2023	1/12/2023-3/3/2023	3/6/2023

*as amended from a previous agenda

**Designates time counted toward NJFLA/FMLA

4.3 Appointments

Resolved, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the applications indicated below (*) for emergent hiring for the following appointments under the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:16-1 et. seq., N.J.S.A. 18A:39.17 et. seq.; N.J.S.A. 18A:6-4.13 et. seq. All appointments are contingent upon reference checks in accordance with P.L. 2018, c.5.

Name	Location	Title	Tenure Track/LOA or LT Replacement	Replacing	Guide	Step	Salary	Effective Date
Mrigaya Singh	LHS	Teacher of Business Education	First Year Tenure Track	M. Jadrosich-Forgét	MA	1	\$62,455	8/30/2022
Amanda Gergich	BHE	TOSD	First Year Tenure Track	L. Svetvilas (transfer of position from PRIDE to ABA)	MA	4	\$63,855	8/30/2022
Elizabeth DeStefano	LHS	Administrative Secretary	First Year Tenure Track	T. Brannick (transfer)	AS >7/12	3	\$45,777, plus \$1,200 degree (prorated)	9/6/2022
Irfan Sahatqiu	HMS	Night/Weekend Custodian	NA	D. Kidd (transfer)	C	1	\$42,152 (prorated) plus \$975 for nights & \$975 for weekends (60 day probation)	9/1/2022
Alvin Barbour	MPMS	Night/Weekend Custodian	NA	S. Ilkowitz	C	1	\$42,152 (prorated) plus \$975 for nights & \$975 for weekends (60 day probation)	9/1/2022
Arinn Shulman	MPE	Playground Aide	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$18/hr	9/1/2022

*as amended from a previous agenda

Resolved, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the appointment of the ABA Discrete Trial TA's and Instructional Aides as listed on **Attachment A**.

4.3a Appointments (walk in item)

Resolved, that the Livingston Board of Education amends the start date for *Lisa Barreto*, newly appointed Principal of Burnet Hill Elementary School, to be Monday, September 12, 2022. Mrs. Barreto was previously approved to start employment with the district on September 23, 2022.

4.4 Transfers

Resolved, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the transfers as listed on **Attachment B**.

4.5 Substitutes

Resolved, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the appointment of the individuals listed below to serve as substitutes on an as-needed basis for the 2022-2023 school year:

Nurses

Amy Heuer

Teachers

Rebecca Campbell

Victoria Delia

Samantha Goldberg

Robin Yelner

Anuka Patel

Resolved, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the appointment of the individual(s) listed below to serve as long-term substitutes as reflected below:

Name	Location	Title	Leave Replacement or Long Term Sub	Replacing	Salary	Effective Date
<i>Terri Ciecierski*</i>	LHS	Teacher of Math (.8)	Leave Replacement	K. Braschi	\$220/day	8/30/2022-2/3/2023
<i>Alexandra Wynn**</i>	BHE	TOSD	Leave Replacement	L. Fabrizio	\$42/day	8/30/2022-TBD

**paid the difference between the amount listed above and her daily per diem as an aide.*

***additional amount to be paid on top of Aide salary*

4.6 Contract Adjustments

Resolved, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the contract adjustments as listed on **Attachment C**.

4.7 Lateral Moves

Resolved, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the lateral movements as listed on **Attachment D**.

4.8 Summer Work

Resolved, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the individuals on **Attachment E** who attended KAMI training over the summer of 2022 to be compensated at the rate of \$100.

4.9 Extra Period Assignments

Resolved, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the individuals listed on **Attachment F** for extra period assignments during the 2022-2023 school year.

4.10 Extra Work Pay

Resolved, that the Livingston Board of Education approves *Laura Fabrizio* to be paid at her hourly rate for up to 20 hours per week as she serves in the capacity of a Behaviorist while she is also working as a Teacher of Students with Disabilities in the ABA program at BHE.

4.11 Stipends

Resolved, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the individuals on **Attachment G** for co-curricular stipends at Livingston High School for the 2022-2023 school year in accordance with the contract between the LBOE and the LEA.

4.12 Salary Adjustment

Resolved, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the salary adjustment for the individuals on **Attachment H** for the 2022-2023 school year at the rates listed.

4.13 Job Descriptions

Resolved, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the following job descriptions:

Part-Time Audio/Visual Technician
Non-Instructional Aide

4.14 Memoranda of Understanding

Resolved, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the Memoranda of Understanding between itself and the Livingston Education Association on the following topics:

Chess Team Coach Stipend
Non-Instructional Aide Salary Guide

Ms. Arnette seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE - Ayes - Ms. Arnette, Mrs. Chirls, Mr. Cohen, Mrs. Khanna, Ms. Messer
Nayes - None

MISCELLANEOUS

Ms. Arnette moved the following:

5.1 HIB Report

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

Mrs. Chirls seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE - Ayes - Ms. Arnette, Mrs. Chirls, Mr. Cohen, Mrs. Khanna, Ms. Messer
Nayes - None

The board reviewed upcoming items for the September 20 voting meeting.

PREVIEW OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2022 VOTING AGENDA

1. PROGRAM/CURRICULUM

- 1.1 Books and DVDs**
- 1.2 Student Teachers (forthcoming)**
- 1.3 Plan for Virtual or Remote Learning**

3. BUSINESS

- 3.1 Payment of Bills**
- 3.2 Board Secretary Report – July 2022**
- 3.3 Transfers**
- 3.4 Acceptance: Nonpublic Auxiliary and Handicapped Aid (Chapter 192/193)**
- 3.5 Joint Transportation Agreement with Morris-Union Jointure Commission**
- 3.6 Approval of Technology Purchases**
- 3.7 Bid Award - Turf Field (forthcoming)**
- 3.8 Policies & Regulations**

4. PERSONNEL

- 4.1 Stipends**

Mr. Davison announced the bid opening for the turf field is scheduled for Friday, September 9 and that we hope to provide a recommendation to award the bid on September 20. Mr. Davison continued that he will send the two lowest bids to the attorney for review and provide an update to the board next week.

Public Comment ~ up to 15 minutes

There was no public comment.

Old Business

Ms. Messer asked if we received any feedback from the Start Strong letter that was sent out and Dr. Block responded we have not.

New Business

Ms. Arnette proposed having a board level equity committee and Mr. Cohen responded that since this is a policy change, he proposed it go through them for initial definition and then hold a conversation at the table. All board members agreed.

The board discussed what they would like to see on the 2:2 agenda with the Township. Some items were the housing development and current state of our schools with respect to enrollment growth, how much revenue comes to the district through a PILOT and for how long, the timeline for when some of these developments will come on line, exploration of space in the Township for possible school expansion, establishment of a process for the Township to share information with us as they approve new housing units, water filtration, the strategic plan and how it might involve community connection and shared services around diversity, equity and inclusion and mental health, and safety and security.

The administration will make sure the demographic study and recent enrollment presentation are shared with the Township members prior to the 2:2 and/or 5:5 meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:00 p.m., Ms. Messer made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Ms. Arnette seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE - Ayes - Ms. Arnette, Mrs. Chirls, Mr. Cohen, Mrs. Khanna, Ms. Messer
Nays - None

Respectfully submitted,



Michael Davison
Board Secretary