



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

Tuesday, December 12, 2023

Executive Session - LHS Large Conference Room - 6:30 p.m.

Public Session - Hybrid Meeting - Livingston High School Auditorium- 7:00 p.m.

A **Voting Meeting** of the Livingston Board of Education was held on this date in the Livingston High School Auditorium and via Facebook Live. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Vineeta Khanna, 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, 2023 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, Parul Khemka and Jake Ferrans

Also in Attendance: Dr. Matthew Block, Thomas Lambe 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:

- legal and student matters

Action may be taken upon return to the public session. The full length of the meeting is anticipated to be approximately 30 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.

Vote all in favor.

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

There were approximately 60 members of the public and staff watching in person and remotely through the webinar and a Facebook Live Stream.

## **Superintendent's Report**

### National Merit Semi-Finalists Recognition Ceremony

Dr. Block explained he is proud to recognize the high school students who were selected to receive the distinction of National Merit Semi-Finalists.

Dr. Block continued, in honor of this achievement, we are giving the students an opportunity to recognize an educator, active or retired, from grades K-12 in Livingston who supported them and made a difference in their lives. Students were asked to purchase a book to present to the educator. Ms. Danielle Rosenzweig announced the names in the following order:

- Dennis Chen recognized Mr. Nicholas Brooks with *If Cats Disappeared From the World*
- Brandon Dong recognized Mr. Alex Lemon with *Pokemon Epic Sticker Collection*
- Jonathan Hong recognized Dr. David Jones with *Dad Jokes: the Good, the Bad, the Terrible*
- Alan Hu recognized Ms. Megan DeBlicek with *The Signature of All Things*
- Samuel Jiang recognized Mr. Paul Raiz with *When Breath Becomes Air*
- Katherine Li recognized Mr. Ernie Cuneo with the biography of *Jean-Michel Basquiat*
- Rebecca Liu recognized Ms. Amanda Buyes with *Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail*
- Sheryl Liu recognized Mr. Max Diaz with *The Photographic 2012 Engagement Calendar of The Elements*
- Advait Pillai recognized Dr. Dorine Starace with *Reality is Not What it Seems: The Journey to Quantum Gravity*
- William Wang recognized Dr. Anatoly Fonarev with *Einstein's Fridge: How the Difference Between Hot and Cold Explains the Universe*
- Anlin Wei recognized Mrs. Karen Pinto with *Because I Had a Teacher*
- Daisy Yao recognized Mrs. Lindsey Gursky with *The Big Book of Braiding: 55 Stylish Braids for Every Occasion*
- Nathan Zhang recognized Mr. Michael Coleman with *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*
- Tiger Zhang recognized Ms. Cheryl Coursen with *What if? Serious Scientific Answers to Absurd Hypothetical Questions*

### LPS Assessment Report

Mrs. Natalie Topylko and Ms. Danielle Rosenzweig presented the LPS Assessment Report.

Ms. Rosenzweig reviewed the AP score summary from May 2023, the five year score summary, which includes the number of students sitting for the exam, how many exams were taken and how many had a score of 3+. The presentation also included information about LHS AP Scholars. Ms. Rosenzweig concluded that open access continues to lead to increased enrollment in AP classes and students sitting for AP tests and that the number of students participating and the number of students scoring a 3 or above continue to increase each year.

Mrs. Topylko reviewed the SAT and ACT scores and provided a five year summary on the number of tests taken and mean scores for each.

The full presentation is available on our website.

The Board asked why less students are taking the ACT and it was decided that information would best be answered by Mrs. Crews during the Report on Graduates in January.

Mrs. Khanna asked if going forward, we can get more information on comparable districts and Mrs. Topylko responded that the information is not readily accessible but she can contact her

counterparts in other districts as well as review their school performance reports to see what she can find.

There was a brief discussion about how our teachers follow a four to five year rotating cycle of AP training. In addition, some of our teachers are readers, who participate in the grading of the exam, which allows them to understand and come back to share with students what is being looked for in an answer that would score a three versus a five.

### Miscellaneous

Dr. Block announced that the schools have been celebrating their nominations for Teacher of the Year awards. These teachers will be honored at a later board meeting.

Dr. Block announced that he and Ms. Rosenzweig attended a program at the JCC today and listened to first hand experiences of witnesses to the terrorist attack on Israel on October 7.

Dr. Block added that he, Ms. Rosenzweig and our social studies supervisors have been invited to meet with the Interfaith Council in Livingston. A date has not yet been set.

Dr. Block explained he provided an orientation tour to our newly elected board member, Fang Gong.

Dr. Block announced that tonight is Mrs. Khanna's last meeting and he expressed that it has been a pleasure to work with her, that she is passionate about students and cares deeply about the district and the community. Dr. Block thanked Mrs. Khanna for her service.

Mrs. Khanna gave a speech that touched upon the work she has been a part of over the past three years, adding that it has been a privilege to serve both the district and community.

### New LPS Course Offerings

Mark Stern reviewed the courses being proposed for the 2024-2025 school year which include Math in Focus in Grade 6, which is a continuation of the Math in Focus sequencing, Gifted and Talented Music, 6-8, as a before school program, AP Macroeconomics, Costume Design, Dance 4, Innovations in Artificial Intelligence and Metal Arts 2.

Mr. Stern also reviewed course revisions in the following areas:

- Music Technology 1 & 2 is being renamed to Audio Engineering & Music Production 1 & 2
- Explorations in Data Science & Python is being renamed to Introduction to Data Science
- Psychology is being renamed to Human Behavior
- Computer Applications: Full year to Semester
- Microsoft Office (MOS): Full year to Semester
- Foods & Nutrition: Changing from 9th-12th Grades to 10th-12th Grades
- Life Hacks & Habits: Changing from 12th Grade to 11th and 12th Grades

The full presentation is available on our website.

Mr. Cohen and other members of the Board requested an assessment of the Math in Focus be completed and the data be provided to them at a future meeting. Some information they would like included is how much time we are spending on fact and fluency, how this will tie into the math levels coming up in 7th and 8th grade and what the gaps are, if any.

There was a brief discussion that although AI is listed in the Code of Conduct, whether or not a policy should also be put in place.

There was a discussion about which courses are removed when new ones are introduced and how enrollment dictates what courses are run each year. Mrs. Chirls requested the current enrollment numbers by course be included in their budget books.

### **Board Reports**

Ms. Arnette extended her appreciation to Mrs. Khanna for all of her hard work during her tenure on the Board.

Mrs. Chirls explained at the last Town Liaison meeting, and as reported in the November 30 issues of the West Essex Tribune, the LBOE will be taking back ownership of Monmouth Court. We have shared the building with the Township for many years and are in the process of working out the contract for the transfer. The Township will continue to use the space for recreation programs in the community and there will be no changes to the adaptive playground. Mrs. Chirls will report back when they have another update.

Mr. Cohen added thanks to Ed Meinhardt, Rosie Bagolie and the rest of the Town Liaison committee for working together to get this done.

### **Student Representative's Report**

Mr. Ferrans congratulated all of the National Merit Semi-Finalists and their teachers. Mr. Ferrans announced the Student Government Association is running a candy gram sale and that the money raised will be donated to a charitable cause. Mr. Ferrans thanked Mrs. Khanna for her guidance and for her service to the Board.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Mrs. Chirls moved the following:

1. Executive Session Meeting Minutes of June 20, 2023; June 21, 2023; July 11, 2023; August 8, 2023; August 21, 2023; September 12, 2023; September 26, 2023; October 10, 2023; October 17, 2023; November 14, 2023 and December 5, 2023
2. Workshop/Voting Meeting Minutes of November 14, 2023

Ms. Arnette seconded the motion.

**ROLL CALL VOTE** - Ayes - Ms. Arnette, Mrs. Chirls, Mr. Cohen, Mrs. Khemka, Mrs. Khanna  
Abstain - Ms. Arnette on 12/5/23 Exec Session, Mr. Cohen on 8/8/23  
Nays - None

### **Public Comment**

Cindy Goldstein, asked if it is possible to drop any other courses from full year to semester in an effort to open up more opportunities for students to fit them into their schedules. Mrs. Goldstein asked what the enrollment number needs to be in order to make the decision to add another section of a course.

Starr Preston, thanked Mrs. Khanna for her service and asked questions during the equity audit meeting that have not been answered. They were if we did not include reviewing HIB and special education intervention documents in the scope of the audit, if a2z can provide coaching services and what we as a district are doing to address the achievement gap.

Dr. Block responded we can look for ways to provide students with the ability to access as many course options as they desire.

Dr. Block continued with the Equity Audit, a2z chose the scope of the resources, they do offer coaching but the administration is still discussing how they want to move forward and we are reviewing the information on the achievement gap.

Mrs. Khanna confirmed that people are still able to reach out to Dr. Zion with their questions and Dr. Block responded you can reach out to her directly or reach out to him and/or Mrs. Steiger.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPROVAL**

### **PROGRAM/CURRICULUM**

Mrs. Chirls moved the following:

#### **1.1 Student Teachers**

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the student teachers as shown on **Attachment A**.

#### **1.2 Field Trips**

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the field trips as shown on **Attachment B**.

Mrs. Khemka seconded the motion.

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

### **STUDENT SERVICES**

Mrs. Chirls moved the following:

#### **2.1 Related Services/Medical Consultants**

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the following consultants that will be utilized to provide related services for the 2023-2024 school year:

#### **ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT**

Bergen County Special Services

\$1,100.00/evaluation

Ms. Arnette seconded the motion.

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

### **BUSINESS**

Mrs. Chirls moved 3.1 to 3.10:

#### **3.1 Payment of Bills**

**Whereas**, the Board Secretary has audited certain vendor claims as required by N.J.S.A. 18A:19-2 and Board Policy 6470 and presented them to the Livingston Board of Education with the recommendation they be paid, now therefore be it

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the payment of the following bills in the amounts listed and attach a complete copy of these bills to the minutes of this meeting.

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Amount</b>
10, 11, 12	Operating Budget (checks 104249 - 104412; Advisements 94-96)	\$6,278,102.04
20	Grants (checks 104249 - 104412)	\$ 113,237.16
60	Cafeteria (checks 60007-60008 )	\$ 588,565.78
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 6,979,904.98</b>

### **3.2 Board Secretary Report – October 2023**

**Whereas**, the Livingston Board of Education has received the Report of the Board Secretary for October 31, 2023, consisting of:

- 1) Interim Balance Sheets
- 2) Interim Statements Comparing Budgeted Revenue with Actual to Date and Appropriations with Expenditures and Encumbrances to Date
- 3) Schedule of Revenues - Actual Compared with Estimated
- 4) Statement of Appropriations Compared with Expenditures and encumbrances, and

**Whereas**, the Livingston Board of Education has received the report of the Treasurer for October 31, 2023, which report is in agreement with the Report of the Board Secretary, and

**Whereas**, these reports show the following balances on the date indicated:

	Cash Balance	Appropriation Balance	Fund Balance
(10) General Current Exp. Fund	\$13,096,810.21	\$102,571,330.30	\$12,416,602.49
(11) Current Expense			
(12) Capital Outlay			
(20) Special Revenue Fund	\$415,170.84	\$ 3,263,310.42	\$ (27,390.94)
(30) Capital Projects Fund	\$4,572,637.51	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,565,706.13
(40) Debt Service Fund	\$ 0.00	\$1,196,149.98	\$(1,256,526.13)
Total:	\$18,084,618.56	\$107,030,790.70	\$15,698,391.55

**Whereas**, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-212(d), the Board Secretary has certified that as of October 31, 2023, no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments contractual orders which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district board of education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8, 18A:22-8.1, now therefore be it

**Resolved**, the Livingston Board of Education accepts the above referenced reports and certification and directs that they be made part of this resolution by reference, and be it

**Further Resolved**, the Livingston Board of Education certifies that, after review of the Secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of its knowledge no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C.6:20-2.13(d) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

**3.3 Transfers**

**Whereas**, the Superintendent of Schools recommends certain transfers among accounts in the 2023-2024 budget for October pursuant to Board of Education Policy 6422, now therefore be it

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education ratify transfers pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.1 and N.J.A.C. 6:20-2A.10 as shown on **Attachment C**.

**3.4 Magellan Healthcare, Inc.**

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the contract with Magellan Healthcare, Inc. from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2027 to provide an Employee Assistance Program to all employees of Livingston Public Schools.

**3.5 Settlement Agreement**

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the Settlement Agreement for Case #12-2023 that is on file at the Board of Education office.

**3.6 Tuition Students (Receiving)**

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the acceptance of the following tuition students for the 2023-2024 school year:

<b>Student(s)</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Tuition</b>
OOD-1	Secondary	\$44,566
OOD-1 ESY	Secondary	\$2,310
OOD-2	Secondary	\$52,698
OOD-2 ESY	Secondary	\$2,550
OOD-3	Secondary	\$59,919

**3.7 Tuition Students (Sending)**

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the following tuition for the 2023-2024 school year:

<b>Student(s)</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Tuition</b>
Secondary-1	Clayton High School	\$17,477

**3.8 SHI International Corporation**

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the agreement with SHI International Corporation to provide an IT Support Specialist to provide temporary support to the district from January 3, 2024 through March 29, 2024 at an hourly rate of \$42 per hour, not to exceed \$20,000.



### 3.9 Donation

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education accepts the donation of a HON low mobile bookcase from Lee Distributors to Burnet Hill School. The donation is a sample piece that is no longer used by the vendor.

### 3.10 Overnight Trips

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the amended resolution to include *Marisa Vosa, Brian Megaro, Sara Rosenberg, Guy Rabner, Michael Munley, Michael Ladocetta, Jessica Rettagliata, Nicola Poposki and Christopher Conroy* to chaperone approximately 47 members of the Ski and Snowboarding Club on daily ski trips to Camelback Resort in Tannersville, PA, on January 7 and 21, 2024; February 4 and 18, 2024 and March 4, 2024, at no cost to the district.

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education approves *Mike Jedwabnik, James Hegedus, Heather Hegedus, Jennifer Rupert and Maureen Biss* to chaperone approximately 90 marching band students performing at the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland, OH, from May 31, 2024 to June 3, 2024, at no cost to the district.

Ms. Arnette seconded the motion.

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

### PERSONNEL

Mrs. Chirls moved the following:

#### 4.1 Resignations & Retirements

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

Name	Position	Reason	Location	Last Day of Employment
<i>Lisa Kindzierski*</i>	School Nurse	Resignation	LHS	January 5, 2024
<i>Danielle Felcher</i>	Teacher of Health & PE	Resignation	Elementary	December 31, 2023
<i>Thomas Rigas</i>	Job Coach	Resignation	LHS	January 3, 2024
<i>Raymond Salvagno</i>	Playground Aide	Resignation	RHE	December 22, 2023

*\*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
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Ashley Gropack	Hillside	TOSD	1/15/2024-1/19/2024	1/22/2024-3/15/2024 & 3/18/2024-6/14/2024**	NA	6/17/2024
Brynn Minghenelli*	Collins	Elementary School Teacher	10/6/2023-1/1/2024	1/2/2024-1/10/2024 & 1/11/2024-4/18/2024**	4/19/2024-6/30/2024	8/29/2024
Soukeyna Diop-Tall	LHS	Teacher of French	12/4/2023-1/15/2024**	NA	NA	1/16/2024
Marc Ciricillo	HMS	Science Teacher	1/22/2024-2/9/2024**	NA	NA	2/12/2024
Kristy Braschi	LHS	Teacher of Math	4/9/2024-5/15/2024	5/16/2024-6/20/2024 & 8/29/2024-10/17/2024**	10/18/2024-6/30/2025	9/2/2025
Samantha Minniti	Collins	Elementary School Teacher	1/11/2024-2/2/2024 & 3/11/2024-4/5/2024**	2/3/2024-3/8/2024 & 4/8/2024-5/31/2024**	NA	6/3/2024
Elena Cannarozzi	LHS	Teacher of Math	11/27/2023-11/30/2023	12/1/2023-12/15/2023**	NA	12/18/2023
Linnet Martes	BHE	Teacher of Spanish	5/6/2024-6/30/2024	8/29/2024-11/21/2024**	11/22/2024-6/30/2025	9/2/2025
Aubrey Amorim	RHE	Elementary School Teacher	2/19/2024-4/17/2024	4/18/2024-6/30/2024**	NA	8/29/2024
Karin Arones	COL/MPE	Teacher of Spanish	1/2/2024-1/17/2024**	1/18/2024-2/9/2024**	NA	2/12/2024
Christina Bravo	LHS	TOSD	2/19/2024-5/3/2024	5/6/2024-6/30/2024 & 8/29/2024-10/4/2024**	10/7/2024-6/30/2025	9/2/2025
Elysa Ruderman	LHS	Life Skills TA	10/30/2023-11/30/2023 (.5)	11/30/2023 (.5)-1/3/2024**	NA	1/4/2024
Julie Levy	RHE	Instructional Aide	11/8/2023-11/30/2023	12/1/2023-12/12/2023**	NA	12/13/2023

\*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
Christopher Mattia*	MPE/HAR/BHE	Teacher of Health & PE	First Year Tenure Track	D. Felcher	MA	1	\$63,075	1/2/2024

\*as amended from a previous agenda

### 4.4 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 2023-2024 school year:

**Teachers**

Sophie Wolf  
Cara Veltman  
Joshua Zacher  
Joshua O'Leary

**Resolved**, the Livingston Board of Education approves the individuals listed on **Attachment D** as certified substitutes. These individuals are currently employed by the District. In the event these individuals are called upon to serve as a substitute, they will be compensated an additional \$50/day (\$10/period) for that assignment.

**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
Allison Tevlin	RHE	Instructional Aide	Long-Term Sub	J. Levy	\$135/day	11/8/2023 - 12/12/2023

*\*amended from previous agenda*

**4.5 Stipends**

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the individuals on **Attachment E** for district stipends for the 2023-2024 school year in accordance with the contract between the LBOE and the LEA.

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the individuals on **Attachment F** for athletic stipends at Livingston High School for the 2023-2024 school year in accordance with the contract between the LBOE and the LEA.

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the individuals on **Attachment G** for co-curricular stipends at Heritage Middle School for the 2023-2024 school year in accordance with the contract between the LBOE and the LEA.

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the individuals listed on **Attachment H** for after school intervention at the rate of \$63.35 per hour (not to exceed \$5,000), to be paid with ARP ESSER funds.

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the individuals on **Attachment I** for co-curricular stipends at Livingston High School for the 2023-2024 school year in accordance with the contract between the LBOE and the LEA.

**4.6 Mentor Fees**

**Resolved**, the Livingston Board of Education amends the individuals on **Attachment J** listed as assigned mentors to receive payment in accordance with the schedule listed.

**4.7 ESEA Grant**

**Resolved**, the Livingston Board of Education approves the individuals listed on **Attachment K** to be paid for work performed for the ELL After School HW Support Program from December 5, 2023, through June 7, 2024, at the rate of \$63.35/hour, not to exceed 48 hours per location. These funds will be paid through the Title III - Immigrant Funds (Account number: 20-242-100-100-1033-12).

#### **4.8 Extra Period Assignments**

**Resolved**, the Livingston Board of Education approves the extra period assignments as listed on **Attachment L**.

Ms. Arnette seconded the motion.

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

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

Mrs. Khemka moved the following:

##### **5.1 HIB Report**

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

##### **5.2 Suspension Report**

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the Suspension Report for the months of September, October and November.

##### **5.3 Bus Evacuation Drills**

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the bus evacuation drills that were completed by the end of December 2023.

Mr. Cohen seconded the motion.

Ms. Arnette asked if demographic information and reasons behind the suspensions could be added to this report. Dr. Block will look into what information we are able to provide in the report.

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

Before making a motion on 3.11, Mrs. Chirls proposed that we remove this resolution and put the money into surplus as we look at what our priorities will be in the budget for both this school year and the next given some of the financial adjustments that had been made between July and October. Mrs. Chirls added it would give her security to know that we are prioritizing any needs that may be identified once we obtain Monmouth Court and once we have a better understanding of potential staffing needs due to increasing enrollment in our schools.

Ms. Arnette and Mrs. Khemka agreed with Mrs. Chirls' proposal, adding we may need to properly allocate money to address items in the Equity Audit, Security Audit, space issues and that this is furniture that is replacing what we already have in classrooms.

Mrs. Khanna agreed with revisiting this purchase at another time so we can prioritize the other needs that were stated tonight.

Dr. Block expressed why he feels this furniture order should be approved tonight.

Mr. Lambe explained any unspent budgetary appropriation that is unspent this budget year as of June 30 can go into capital reserve or falls into surplus. If it falls to surplus, it cannot be used in the next budget year, it skips a year, so could be appropriated in the 2025-2026 budget as

budgeted fund balance. Mr. Lambe does not recommend spending budgeted fund balance on recurring costs but does recommend spending on one time expenses, such as furniture or capital items.

Mr. Lambe continued that if the money goes into the capital reserve, it can be spent on Monmouth Court or many other capital items throughout the district.

Mr. Lambe continued that because we have so much budgeted fund balance in this year's budget, it is the right opportunity to purchase the furniture now. Next year's budget will have a lower budgeted fund balance which will make it more difficult to make one time expenditures.

Mrs. Khemka explained they would like to understand what the financial issues were and what went wrong.

Mr. Lambe responded the issues had to do with accounting for social security in last year's budget, which is separate from the furniture being ordered in this year's budget.

Mr. Cohen suggested tabling this item until a preliminary budget is available for next school year.

Mrs. Khemka moved to table resolution 3.11:

**3.11 Purchases of Furniture**

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the purchase orders for the purchases of flexible classroom furniture for active learning environments as shown below:

Vendor	Req #	Amount	School	Cooperative Information
Lee Distributors	R-24-01971 R-24-01972	\$16,272.00 <u>\$23,239.50</u> <b>\$39,511.50</b>	BH	Educational Data Services, Bid #10430 MSRP furniture 12/10/20-11/30/23
Lee Distributors	R-24-01974	<b>\$67,726.69</b>	COL	Educational Data Services, Bid #10430 MSRP furniture 12/10/20-11/30/23
Fomcore, LLC	R-24-01997	\$21,300.00	HAR	Educational Services Commission of NJ Bid #22/23-08 CO-OP #65 MCECCPS, Exp. 7/1/24
Lee Distributors	R-24-01994	\$46,207.25		Educational Data Services Bid #10430, MSRP furniture, Exp. 12/1/23
Smith System	R-24-02015	<u>\$16,095.75</u> <b>\$83,603.00</b>		Educational Data Services, Bid #10430, MSRP furniture 12/10/20-11/30/23
Smith System	R-24-02020	<b>\$78,780.25</b>	HIL	Educational Data Services, Bid #10430, MSRP furniture

				12/10/20-11/30/23
Virco	R-24-02008	\$1,861.60	MPE	Educational Services Commission of NJ, Bid #22/23-08 CO-OP #65 MCESCCPS 7/2/22-7/1/24 Extended
Virco	R-24-02013	\$12,219.84		Educational Data Services, Bid #8576 MSRP furniture 12/10/21-11/30/23
Smith System	R-24-02016	<u>\$72,877.50</u>		Educational Data Services, Bid #10430, MSRP furniture 12/10/20-11/30/23
		<b>\$86,958.94</b>		
Smith System	R-24-02019	\$85,336.50	RH	Educational Data Services, Bid #10430, MSRP furniture 12/10/20-11/30/23
Lee Distributors	R-24-01993	<u>\$1,950.48</u>		Educational Data Services, #8576 MSRP furniture 12/10/21-11/30/23
		<b>\$87,286.98</b>		
Smith System	R-24-02017	<b>\$151,492.00</b>	HMS	Educational Data Services, Bid #10430, MSRP furniture 12/10/20-11/30/23
Lee Distributors	R-24-01996	\$22,790.40	MPMS	Educational Data Services, Bid #10430, MSRP furniture 12/1/23
Lee Distributors	R-24-01995	\$4,155.77		Educational Data Services, Bid #10430, MSRP furniture 12/1/23
Smith System	R-24-02018	\$43,966.50		Educational Data Services, Bid #10430, MSRP furniture 12/10/20-11/30/23
WB Manufacturing	R-24-02062	<u>\$51,804.40</u>		Educational Services Commission of NJ, Bid #20/21-01 7/2/20-7/1/24
		<b>\$122,717.07</b>		

Ms. Arnette seconded the motion.

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

**Old Business**

There was no old business.

**New Business**

There was no new business.

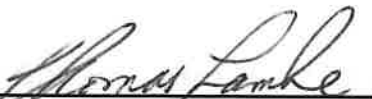
**ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:35 p.m., Mrs. Khanna made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mr. Cohen seconded the motion.

Vote all in favor.

**Respectfully submitted,**



**Thomas J. Lambe**  
**Board Secretary**