

**THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
METUCHEN, NEW JERSEY**

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2021

BOARD MEETING AGENDA

of the Metuchen Board of Education

Metuchen High School
400 Grove Avenue
Metuchen, NJ 08840

1. Call to Order

2. Flag Salute

3. Notice of Meeting

I hereby make this statement to indicate compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act known as Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of New Jersey, 1975, which became effective 90 days after enactment, January 19, 1976.

Notice of this meeting was given by providing the location, time and date of this meeting, and posting of the same on the front door of the Board of Education offices, by delivering copies to the Borough Hall and the Metuchen Public Library, The Home News and Tribune, The Criterion Sentinel, The Star Ledger, The Metuchen Mirror, and by filing a copy with the Borough Clerk as prescribed by this law.

4. Roll Call

Mr. Benderly	A	Ms. Killean	P
Ms. Cook	P	Mr. Lifton	P
Mr. Derflinger	P	Mr. Manley	P
Mr. Glassberg	P	Mr. Suss	P
Dr. Johnson-Marcus	P		

5. Showcase of Success – *nothing at this time*

6. Meeting Open to the Public

Mr. Jonathan Stevens, MHS teacher and MEA President, spoke about a teacher survey he conducted regarding remote vs in-person teaching and Covid-19. Ms. April Compertore, 540 Wakefield Drive, Ms. Carissa McCarthy, 8 Homer Place, Ms. Susan Molineux, 91 Linden Avenue, and Colleen Sommo, 37 Upland Avenue, each spoke in support of in-person schooling.

7. Presentations

- Audit 2019-2020: Mr. Steve McDermott, a representative from Suplee, Clooney & Company, discussed the results of the 2019-2020 school year audit
- School Board Recognition Month – Dr. Caputo presented board members with certificates and thanked them for their service to Metuchen Schools

8. Reports

- ❖ President’s Report – Mr. Glassberg reported that the agenda will be presented a little differently going forward, and that the Personnel section will be posted for the public prior to the start of the meetings, similar to where the other sections are posted.
- ❖ Superintendent’s Report – Dr. Caputo updated the Board and the public on our Covid-19 testing.
- ❖ Business Administrator/Board Secretary’s Report – Mr. Harvier gave report
- ❖ Committee Reports
 - Facilities – Mr. Lifton gave report
 - Finance/Tech – Mr. Manley gave report
 - Human Relations Commission – Dr. Johnson-Marcus gave report
 - No other Committees have met since the last Board meeting

9. Old Business – *nothing at this time*

10. New Business – *nothing at this time*

11. Approval of Minutes of the Board of Education Meetings

Move to approve the minutes of the following meetings:

January 5, 2021	Board Meeting
January 5, 2021	Special Executive Meeting

Mr. Glassberg motioned. Mr. Derflinger seconded. Motion carried 8-0-0.

12. Meeting Open to the Public – *nothing at this time*

13. Recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools

(at this time the Board will take formal action on the following items – see attachments)

Often times it may appear to members of our audience that the Board of Education takes action with very little comment and in many cases a unanimous vote. Before a matter is placed on the agenda at a public meeting, the administration has thoroughly reviewed the matter with the Superintendent of Schools. If the Superintendent is satisfied that the matter is ready to be presented to the Board of Education, it is then referred to the appropriate board committee. The members of the board committee work with administration and the Superintendent to assure that the members fully understand the matter. When the committee is satisfied with the matter, it is presented to the Board of Education for discussion before any final action is taken. Only then, is it placed on the agenda for action at a public meeting.

A. PERSONNEL

1. Appointment – Substitute Teachers

Move to approve the following substitute teachers for the 2020-2021 school year, effective January 20, 2021:

Name	Certification	Rate
Catherine LaMoreaux	Certification – English	\$95
Elana Celano	College degree	\$90
Maria Nazareth	Certification – Nursery School, Elementary, Teacher of Handicapped	\$95
Kelsey Reilly	College degree	\$90

2. Appointment – Home Instruction Teacher

Move to approve the appointment of Catherine LaMoreaux as a home instruction teacher for the 2020-2021 school year, effective January 20, 2021, at the rate of \$46/hour, as needed.

3. Appointment – Substitute Custodians

Move to approve the following substitute custodians for the 2020-2021 school year, effective January 20, 2021, at a rate of \$15/hour.

Robert Dallas
Jose Almeida – pending criminal history clearance

4. Appointment – Paraprofessional

Move to approve the appointment of Angela Spadavecchia as a Paraprofessional at Moss School for the 2020-2021 school year, at a salary of \$21,990/year, Step 1, prorated, effective January 20, 2021.

5. Appointment – 2020-2021 Intern

Move to approve the following graduate student as a 2020-2021 Psychology Intern to complete her practicum hours:

Name	College	School Assignment
Samantha Silber	Rutgers Graduate School	Moss

6. Salary Adjustments - Mentor Teachers

Move to approve the salary adjustments of the following mentor teachers who worked with mentee teachers at the New Teacher Academy on August 26, 2020, for 6 hours at the rate of \$46/hour, for a total of \$276.00/per teacher. (Agenda 12/15/20, Section 12 A36).

Mentors
Lindsay Nalepa
Sarah Jensen
Megan Shapiro
Lindsey Omark
Eileen Kuchar
Beth McLaughlin
Caroline Forde
Danielle Cermak
Adam Levy
Beth Abbott
Christina Theiss
Karen Calantoni
Karen Logan
Kristin Bruno
Isabelle Filiciello
Steve Cichetti
Ed Ronk
Katie McKenna

7. Adjustment – Informal Mentoring Teachers

Move to rescind the 30 CEU credits for informal mentoring and approve the hourly rate of \$46/hour for a maximum of six hours for the following teachers who are working with mentee teachers for the 2020-2021 school year, as listed (Agenda 9/22/20, Section 13 A22):

New Teacher	School/Assignment	Mentor
Olivia Avena	EMS Science	Ed Ronk
Jamie Hembree	EMS Science	Rachel DiVanno
Christina Bropson	EMS Sp. Ed. Math	Beth McLaughlin
Casey Sullivan	EMS/MHS Speech	Isabelle Filiciello
Lauren Thompson	EMS Sp. Ed. ELA	Caroline Forde
Mark Mooney	MHS/PE/Health	Beth Abbott
Michelle Huff	MHS/PE/Health	Beth Abbott
Daniel Rosa	Special Services/ Psychologist	Christina Theiss
Kelly Wales	Special Services/ Psychologist	Karen Calantoni
Leave Replacements		
Krista Szark	CES Leave Replacement	Kathleen Zaleck
Julie Macchia	CES Leave Replacement	Elizabeth Smith
Jennifer Carloni	CES Leave Replacement	Julie Anderson
Michelle Duggan	EMS Leave Replacement	Rebecca Dwyer

8. Informal Mentors

Move to approve the following staff to serve as informal mentors for the 2020-2021 school year, to be paid at a rate of \$46/hour, not to exceed six hours:

New Teacher	School	Mentor
Marissa Geist	Edgar	Lisa Granados
Amanda Quaglieri	Campbell	Nga Pham

9. Speech Certification Supervision

Move to approve the following staff to provide Speech Certification Supervision for the 2020-2021 school year, to be paid at a rate of \$46/hour, not to exceed the following hours:

Name	New Teacher	Hourly Rate	# of Hours	Total
Isabelle Filiciello	Casey Sullivan	\$46	38	\$1,748
Emily Peluso	Stephanie Coleman	\$46	14	\$ 644

10. Appointment – Certificated Staff

Move to approve the appointment of Ji Yeon Lim, MHS Math Teacher, for the 2020-2021 school year, effective March 22, 2021, or earlier if she is released from her current district, at a pro-rated salary of \$57,000/year, Step 1F.

11. Appointment – Certificated Staff

Move to approve the appointment of Tomasz Sobieniak, MHS Intervention Math Teacher, for the 2020-2021 school year, effective March 22, 2021, or earlier if he is released from his current district, at a pro-rated salary of \$68,800/year, Step 4H.

12. Appointment – Leave Replacement

Move to approve the appointment of Kaitlin Gilbride, Leave Replacement for Lauren Campbell, Edgar School Counselor, effective January 28, 2021 through June 15, 2021, at a rate of \$275.68/day.

13. Appointment – Central Office

Move to approve the appointment of Maryanne Vitagliano, Benefits Coordinator/Secretary to the Buildings and Grounds Supervisor, for the 2020-2021 school year, 12-month position, effective February 8, 2021 or earlier if she is released from her current employer, at a pro-rated salary of \$46,000/year.

14. RtI Instruction

Move to approve the following teachers for RtI instruction at a rate of \$46/hour, effective January 19, 2021, as needed before and after school:

Janis Lewandowski	Sheri Lifson
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15. Covid Testing – Staff

Move to approve the following staff members to assist with Covid testing for staff and students, as needed after work hours, at their hourly rates:

Beth Abbott	Teri Coleman
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16. EMS Self Contained Class

Move to approve Chris Peckhardt at Edgar School for a .4 sixth period instructional stipend (\$2,498, prorated) to provide adapted music to the self contained class for the third and fourth marking periods, effective February 1, 2021.

17. Appointment – Event Staff

Move to approve the following Event Staff for the 2020-2021 school year, at the rates listed below:

Beth Abbott	Maureen Azzara	Kathy Mallory
Mark Mooney	Jim Thomas	Nick Zaneto

Position	MHS Football Games (per game)	MHS Basketball Games (per game)
Cash Box	\$78	\$67
Ticket Sellers	\$55	\$50

Board Meeting Minutes – January 19, 2021

Security	\$50	\$45
Camera/Scoreboard	\$22	\$22
Site Supervisor	\$50	\$50
Edgar Basketball Supervisor	N/A	\$50

18. SEPAC Student Workshops

Move to approve the following Child Study Team members to provide student and parent workshops at a rate of \$46/hour:

Karen Calantoni	Kelly Wales	Susan Whitlock
Karla Riera	Alissa Trapanese	Daniel Rosa
Chrissy Theiss	Lisa Granados	Deneane Bonassisa

19. Resolution

Be It Resolved that the resignation of Christine Cuthbertson due to retirement, effective January 31, 2022, is hereby accepted. Be It Further Resolved that a leave of absence for Christine Cuthbertson, with pay and benefits, is hereby approved through January 31, 2022, her final day of employment.

20. Employee Agreement

Move to approve the terms of a written agreement with employee #100606.

21. Appointment – Leave Replacement

Move to approve the appointment of Marissa Geist, as a Child Study Team Case Manager Leave Replacement at Edgar School, effective January 20, 2021 through June 15, 2021, at a rate of \$275.68/day.

Mr. Glassberg motioned. Mr. Lifton seconded. Motion carried 8-0-0.

-----end of personnel section-----

B. FINANCE

1. Treasurer of School Monies and Board Secretary’s Reports

Move to approve the Treasurer of School Monies’ Report, and Board Secretary’s Report as of November 30, 2020.

2. Payment of Bills

a) Board Secretary’s Certification

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2A.10(d), the Board Secretary has certified that as of January 19, 2021 no budgetary line item accounts have obligations and payments which exceed the amount appropriated by the Board of Education.

Michael A. Harvier, Board Secretary

Date

Board Meeting Minutes – January 19, 2021

- b) Approve the Following Items Submitted by the Board Secretary
 Payment of bills and claims, as shown on the attached list(s) that have been certified by the Board of Education and filed in the Business Office.

3. Professional Development

Move to approve the following professional development activities as shown on the attached chart:

Start Date	End Date	Activity Title	Last, First Name	Building	Requested	Payment Method	FFPI #
7/8/2019	7/12/2019	Multimedia Immersion Inspires STEM Interest	Krombolz, Stefeny	MHS	\$ -	No cost	
12/15/2020	12/15/2020	The Ties that Bind	Smith, Audra	EMS	\$ 125.00	FFPI	21-038
1/20/2021	3/24/2021	ELL Coach	Park, Ellen	EMS & MHS	\$ 1,000.00	FFPI	21-050
1/21/2021	3/5/2021	NJ Leaders to Leaders Academy	Evans, Neyda	EMS	\$ -	No cost	
1/21/2021	1/21/2021	"Bee Still & Bee Calm" with Dr. Sileo	Spring, Christina	CES	\$ -	No cost	
1/23/2021	1/23/2021	MCAKE presents "Two Saturdays with Amy Garner"	Spring, Christina	CES	\$ -	No cost	
1/29/2021	1/29/2021	Rewire the Anxious Brain	McLaughlin, Beth	EMS	\$ 219.99	FFPI	21-049
2/6/2021	2/6/2021	NJIDA Presents WIFFT! Winter Institute Food for Thought	Smith, Rebecca	CES	\$ 90.00	FFPI	21-051
2/6/2021	2/6/2021	MCAKE presents "Two Saturdays with Amy Garner"	Spring, Christina	CES	\$ -	No cost	
2/8/2021	2/12/2021	5th Grade NJSLA- S Science Assessment Item Review Committee	Nolde, Jonathan	CES	\$ -	No cost	
2/18/2021	2/20/2021	NJMEA Virtual State Conference	McEwan, Christopher	EMS	\$ 30.00	FFPI	21-044
2/22/2021	2/22/2021	NJ APHERD annual (virtual convention)	Gilbert, Melanie	EMS	\$ 164.00	FFPI	21-048
2/22/2021	2/23/2021	NJAPHERD Convention 2021	Huff, Michelle	MHS	\$ 164.00	FFPI	21-053
2/22/2021	2/23/2021	NJAPHERD State conference	Zaneto, Nicholas	MHS	\$ 164.00	FFPI	21-052
2/23/2021	2/23/2021	2021 NJAPHERD Virtual Conference	Kuhlthau, Kristen	EMS	\$ 99.00	FFPI	21-047
2/24/2021	2/24/2021	Mental Health and Challenging Behaviors with Young Children	Spring, Christina	CES	\$ -	No cost	
2/25/2021	2/25/2021	Trauma -Informed Strategies to support Student success in the classroom	Bruno, Kristin	EMS	\$ 279.00	FFPI	21-055

Board Meeting Minutes – January 19, 2021

3/5/2021	3/5/2021	Using the Patterns of Strengths and Weaknesses (PSW) Model to Identify Specific Learning Disabilities and Other Learning Problems	Herzog, Tania	C/O	\$ 60.00	Other	
3/5/2021	3/5/2021	Using the Patterns of Strengths and Weaknesses Model to Determine Specific Learning Disabilities and other learning problems	Bonassisa, Deneane	MHS	\$ 60.00	FFPI	21-056
3/24/2021	3/24/2021	Dyslexia: Best Strategies for Students Who Struggle to Successfully Read, Write and Spell (Grades K-6)	Bormann, Kristina	CES	\$ 279.00	FFPI	21-046
3/24/2021	3/24/2021	Dyslexia: Best Strategies for Students Who Struggle to Read, Write and Spell	Jeney, Meghan	CES	\$ 279.00	FFPI	21-045

4. Nonpublic Security Aid

Move to approve the following nonpublic security aid for the 2020-2021 school year. These expenditures are required for the district to fulfill certain legal obligations under state legislation to administer federal or state funds provided to nonpublic schools within our jurisdiction.

School	Vendor	QTY	Item #	Description	Price
Metuchen Christian Academy	CDW	1	3329606	HID Multiclass SE RPK40-proximity reader	\$289.58
		1	5169537	Hes 9600 Series-electric strike	\$470.59
		1	6163283	Remee 500ft composite ctrol plen YLW	\$437.06
		1		1000ft plenum cable	\$375.00
		1		12 Month License Renewal Doors 1-3	\$540.00
		1		12 Month License Renewal Doors 4-5	\$25.00
		1		Installations and Engineering Services	\$8,687.50

5. Effective School Solutions

Move to approve an amendment to the contract with Effective School Solutions from January through June 2021 for an additional amount of approximately \$40,000 for additional clinical services (exact amount pending receipt of contract).

Mr. Manley motioned. Mr. Suss seconded. Motion carried 8-0-0.

----- **end of finance section** -----

C. POLICY

1. District Calendar

Move to approve the district calendar for the 2021-2022 school year.

2. ESCNJ Appointment

Pursuant to enacted legislation, P.L. 192-1989, Chapter 254, the Metuchen Board of Education elects Brian Glassberg to the Representative Assembly of the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey at the January 19, 2021 board meeting. Move to approve Mr. Glassberg’s term as ESCNJ representative through December 31, 2021.

Ms. Cook motioned. Dr. Johnson-Marcus seconded. Motion carried 8-0-0.

----- **end of policy section** -----

D. CURRICULUM

Nothing at this time

----- **end of curriculum section** -----

14. Meeting Open to Public – *nothing at this time*

15. Announcements

Ms. Cook read announcements

16. Motion to Go Into Executive Session (*when applicable*)

Resolution to Close Meeting

BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to the Sunshine Act, N.J.S. 10:4-12 and 13, that the Board of Education will now meet in executive session to discuss

_____ and that matters discussed will be disclosed to the public as soon as the reason for confidentiality no longer exist.

17. Adjournment

Mr. Glassberg motioned. All in favor.

MEETING ADJOURNED 9:06 PM