

**THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
METUCHEN, NEW JERSEY**

TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2022

**MEETING MINUTES
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, 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	Dr. Spigner	P
Mr. Glassberg	P	Mr. Suss	A
Dr. Johnson-Marcus	P		

5. Showcase of Success

❖ Jazz Ensemble

The Jazz Ensemble is part of a comprehensive Jazz Program at Metuchen High School taught by John Messenger and John Flynn. The Jazz program includes Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Band, which are both traditional big bands, and the new Jazz Lab program which is open to the entire school. The Metuchen High School Jazz Ensemble competes throughout the year in local jazz festivals and also at the annual New Jersey Association for Jazz Educators State Jazz Festival. Highlights from this past season include winning awards for best trumpet section at the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Festival, Junior Trumpet JJ Wyetzner receiving best soloist awards at the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Festival, the JP Stevens Festival, and also at the NJAJE State Jazz Semi-Finals Festival. The band received a silver rating and was ranked as one of the top 9 bands in the state at NJAJE Semi-finals. This allowed the band to compete at NJAJE State Jazz Finals where they received gold rating and are currently ranked in 4th place overall in the state.

Jazz Ensemble will be performing *Birdland* by Joe Zawinul.

6. Meeting Open to the Public *(for any topic)*

7. Presentations

❖ Referendum - Roof work/HVAC needs and highlights, Capacity issues/highlights of extra space via new construction or reduction of a grade - Mr. Harvier and Dr. Caputo gave the presentation.

8. Reports

- ❖ President’s Report -Mr. Glassberg gave a report.
- ❖ Superintendent's Report - Dr. Caputo gave a report.
- ❖ Committee Reports

Dr. Johnson-Marcus gave a report for the Human Relations Commission.

Ms. Killean gave a report for the Extra-Curricular Committee.

Mr. Lifton gave a report for the Referendum Committee and the Finance/Tech Committee.

9. Old Business

10. New Business

11. Approval of Minutes of the Board of Education Meetings

April 26, 2022	Special Business Meeting (1)
April 26, 2022	Special Business Meeting (2)
April 26, 2022	Board Meeting

Mr. Glassberg motioned. Ms. Cook seconded. Motion carried 5-0-2. Mr. Lifton and Dr. Spigner abstained.

12. Meeting Open to the Public *(for any topic)*

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

Motion/Second/Comments/Roll Call

1. Title III SEI Training

Move to approve the following staff members to participate in SEI Training at a rate of \$47 an hour not to exceed 15 hours to be paid for with Title III funds (20-241-200-100) and completed by June 17, 2022.

Michelle Bethe	Alyssa Dugasz	Caroline Forde	Lori Meyer
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2. Appointment – Additional Substitute Secretary

Move to approve the appointment of the following additional substitute secretary for the 2021-2022 school year at a rate of \$14.38/hour, effective May 11, 2022, pending criminal background clearance (Agenda 8/24/2021, Section 13 A8):

Meryl Gold

3. Resignation - Certificated Staff

Move to accept the resignation of Daniel Rosa, School Psychologist at Edgar Middle School, effective August 31, 2022.

4. Appointment - Certificated Staff

Move to approve the appointment of Courtney Crawford, School Psychologist at Edgar Middle School, for the 2022-2023 school year, at a salary of \$66,220, Step 5G, effective August 31, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

5. Resignation - Certificated Staff

Move to accept the resignation of Kelsey Comerford, Media Specialist at Edgar Middle School and Metuchen High School, effective June 30, 2022.

6. Reappointment - Non-Tenured Administrators

Move to approve the reappointment of the following non-tenured administrators for the 2022-2023 school year as shown on Attachment 1 (first page).

7. Reappointment - Non-Tenured Teachers

Move to approve the reappointment of the following non-tenured teachers for the 2022-2023 school year as shown on Attachment 1 (second through fourth pages).

8. Revision – MHS Mentor Teacher

Move to revise the MHS Mentor Teacher assignment as follows (Agenda 4/26/22, Section 13A 3):

FROM: New Teacher: Richard Cundari	Mentor Teacher: Chad Murray	Formal Mentor	Stipend: Partial Year: \$110
TO: New Teacher: Richard Cundari	Mentor Teacher: Chad Murray	Informal Mentor	Up to 6 hours, at \$47/hour

9. Retirement - Certificated Staff

Move to approve the retirement of Ken Eagel, Industrial Arts Teacher at Metuchen High School, effective June 30, 2022.

10. Additional Instructional Stipend

Move to approve the following additional instructional stipend for the 2021-2022 school year, effective May 16, 2022:

Name	Assignment	2021-2022 Stipend
Mike Mazza	MHS English	\$7,499, prorated
Alexa Baird	MHS English	\$7,499, prorated
Katie Tencza	MHS English	\$7,499, prorated
Matt Sutin	MHS English	\$7,499, prorated

11. Appointment – Substitutes

Move to approve the additional substitute teachers for the 2021-2022 school year, effective May 11, 2022, pending criminal history clearance (Agenda 8/24/2021, Section 13 A5):

Substitute Teacher	Certification	Ray Rate
Alanna Redwood	Sub with college degree	\$90/day

Mr. Glassberg motioned. Ms. Cook seconded. Motion carried 7-0-0 for items 1-5 and 7-11. Motion carried 6-0-1 for item 6. Ms. Cook abstained on item 6.

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

B. FINANCE

Motion/Second/Comments/Roll Call

1. Nonpublic Technology Aid

Move to approve the following nonpublic technology aid for the 2021-2022 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	Total
St. Joseph High School	CDW-G	5	6840579	Dell OptiPlex 7090-SFF-Core i5 10505 3.2 GHz-vPro-8GB	\$961.84	\$4,809.20
St. Francis Cathedral School	CDW-G	25	5562763	Gumdrop DropTech Series-notebook shell case	\$50.74	\$1,268.50
St. Francis Cathedral School	CDW-G	1	4425332	Epson PowerLite 685W-3LCD projector	\$1,090.00	\$1,090.00
St. Francis Cathedral School	Dell Technologies	9	492-BCNW	Dell Slim Power Adapter-65Watt Type-C w/Meter Power Cord	\$38.45	\$346.05
		2	470-ABZX	Dell Video Adapter-HDMI/VGA	\$16.04	\$32.08
		3	A7450954	Mini Display Port to VGA Adapter-Vision Tek	\$18.62	\$55.86
		2	A7654196	C2G Mini Display Port to VGA Adapter - 8in	\$19.41	\$38.82
		6	AB543620	New Google Chrome EDU Perpetual License	\$32.07	\$192.42
		10	210-ARJL	Chromebook 11 3100	\$315.90	\$3,159.00

2. Corrective Action Plan

Move to approve the corrective action plan for the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI).

3. Parent-Paid Tuition for 2022-2023

Move to approve the parent-paid tuition for the 2022-2023 school year:

Grade	2022-2023
Kindergarten	\$6,402.00
Grades 1-8	\$12,806.00
Grades 9-12	\$16,252.00
Children of Employees	
Kindergarten	\$3,200.00
Grades 1-8	\$6,402.00
Grades 9-12	\$8,126.00

*Tuition has increased by 5% each year

4. Professional Development

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

Start Date	End Date	Activity Title	Name	Building	Approved	Payment	FFPI Proposal #
4/27/2022	4/27/2022	South African Delegation Visit	Fitzgibbon, David	Campbell	\$0	No cost	
5/10/2022	5/10/2022	New Jersey Public School Labor Management Collaborative's Inter-District Conference	Kirschner, Brooke	Campbell	\$0	No cost	
5/13/2022	5/13/2022	Climate Change and the NJ State Learning Standards for Science	Nolde, Jonathan	Campbell	\$205.42	FFPI	22-111
5/19/2022	5/19/2022	NJASCD Early Childhood Conference	Dougherty, Natalie	Central Office	\$0	No cost	
5/20/2022	5/22/2022	BRIDGING: TECHNIQUE TO INTERVENTION - ZOOM U.S. EASTERN TIME (IN ENGLISH)	Sullivan, Casey	Edgar & MHS	\$499	FFPI	22-110
5/24/2022	5/24/2022	Moving into the Zone Webinar: Implementing MoveMindfully and The Zones of Regulation	Young, Kelsee	Moss	\$230	FFPI	22-112
3/21/2022	3/21/2022	NJ Schools Building & Grounds Assoc. Annual Expo/Conference	Colegrove, Darren	C/O	Not to exceed \$729.30	Other	
3/20/2022	3/23/2022	NJ Schools Building & Grounds Assoc. Annual Expo/Conference	Shanley, Brian	C/O	Not to exceed \$298.44	Other	

5. Appointment - Clinical, Therapeutic, Counseling and Behavioral Services

Move to approve the appointment of the following to provide clinical, therapeutic, counseling and behavioral services for the 2022-2023 school year:

- Effective School Solutions- to provide Therapeutic Mental Health Services for an annual contract of \$378,940.
- Rutgers UBHC- to provide Therapeutic Mental Health Services for an annual contract of \$275,600.
- Wellspring Center for Prevention to provide counseling services for an annual rate of \$57,000 (ESSER 2 Grant Funded).
- Invo HealthCare Associates to provide the following professional services at the corresponding rates:
 - Occupational Therapy, \$81.15/hr and \$306 per evaluation, not to exceed \$229,121 per year
 - Speech Therapy, \$79.56/hr and \$300 per evaluation
 - Registered Behavioral Technician, \$47/hr
 - Board Certified Behavior Analyst, \$98/hr
 - LCSW, \$68/hr

6. School Security Grant

Move to accept the NJDOE School Security Grant 22E00153 in the amount of \$128,387.

Mr. Glassberg motioned. Mr. Lifton seconded. Motion carried 7-0-0.

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

C. POLICY

Motion/Second/Comments/Roll Call

1. Suspensions

The Board hereby acknowledges receipt of the suspension report summary for April 25-May 6, 2022.

Ms. Cook motioned. Dr. Johnson-Marcus seconded. Motion carried 7-0-0.

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

D. CURRICULUM

Motion/Second/Comments/Roll Call

1. Field Trips

Move to approve the following field trips for students in the Metuchen School District as shown:

School	Destination	Class/Group/ Purpose	Teachers/ Advisors	Date (s)	No. Of Students	Board Cost- Transportation	Board Cost- Subs.
MOSS	Campbell Elementary	Kindergarten – Students will visit Campbell and have a tour.	Calentoni Fischer Kandel Sporer Paraprofessionals	6/6/ 2022	100	\$120	\$0

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CES	SportsPlex at Metuchen	3 rd Grade – Students will work on relationship skills, responsible decision making, and social awareness.	Rubinowitsch Pauls Bethe Hunt Delaney Wong Anderson Zalek Salit	6/14/ 2022	170	\$0 Walking Trip	\$90
CES	SportsPlex at Metuchen	4 th Grade – Students will work on relationship skills, responsible decision making, and social awareness.	Lopes Valera Gonzalez Yakowenko Holleran Pata Angus Fiore Omark Pasquale	6/15/ 2022	198	\$0	\$0
MHS	Campbell Elementary	9 th – 12 th Grade – The Asian Heritage Club will perform a Lion Dance assembly for Campbell Students to celebrate Asian Heritage Month.	Kato	5/24/ 2022	15	\$60	\$90
MHS	iPlay America	9 th – 12 th Grade – Students will take a private behind the scenes tour of iPlay America operations. The focus of the trip is to expose students to the variety of careers in the gaming/tech industry.	Cichetti DeMott Korellis Karger	6/2/ 2022	25	\$100	\$270
MHS	Jenkinson’s Aquarium & Lunch/Fun on Boardwalk	12 th Grade – Students will learn how to act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.	Valovcin Dybas Schutz Molfetto Grant DiMeglio Leitner	6/10/ 2022	9	\$120	\$0

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MHS	Stairway to Heaven/Pochuck Valley to Pinwheel Vista	9 th – 12 th Grade – The Outdoor Wellness Club will hike boardwalks, a suspension bridge, hardwood forest, fields of wildflowers, train tracks, a cow pasture, a boulder field before steeply climbing the "Stairway to Heaven to one of the best viewpoints in NJ: Pinwheel's Vista.	Girin Cermak TBD Additional Staff Members	6/17/2022	45	\$255	\$0
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2. Field Trips-Retroactive

Move to retroactively approve the following field trips for students in the Metuchen School District as shown:

School	Destination	Class/Group/Purpose	Teachers/Advisors	Date (s)	No. Of Students	Board Cost-Transportation	Board Cost-Subs.
CES	Edgar Middle School	4 th Grade – 5th Grade Orientation	Yakowenko 4 th Grade Teachers & Paraprofessionals	5/5/2022	198	\$90	\$0

Mr. Derflinger motioned. Dr. Johnson-Marcus seconded. Motion carried 7-0-0.

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

Dr. Caputo Wished Ken Eagel a happy and healthy retirement.

14. Meeting Open to Public *(for any topic)*

15. Announcements - Dr. Spigner gave 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 to adjourn. All in favor. Adjournment at 8:43pm.