

HACKENSACK BOARD OF EDUCATION
191 Second Street, Hackensack, NJ 07601
SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING
Conducted Remotely via ZOOM Meeting
MINUTES

Minutes of the proceedings of the Special Public Meeting held on August 12, 2020, in the Hackensack Board of Education Padovano Building and remotely via Zoom, at 5:00 pm. Lance Powell, Board President, presided.

I. Flag Salute / Moment of Silence / Sunshine Statement / Call to Order / Roll Call

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings, *N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.*, adequate notification of this meeting has been provided by advertising in The Record and posting notice in the Board of Education Administration Building (Padovano Education Center) and filing notice with the City Clerk. I hereby call to order the Special Public Meeting of Wednesday, August 12, 2020, conducted remotely via Zoom, at 5:00 pm.

Special Note: As a result of the limitations placed on public assemblies due to the Corona Virus related restrictions, this meeting is being conducted via Zoom. The district website contains information on public participation.

<i>Board Member</i>	<i>Participating Via Remote Conference</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Mr. Bendezu (Julio)		X
Ms. Cogelja (Frances)		X
Mr. Coleman (Christopher)	X	
Mr. Goodman (Ira)	X	
Mr. Oates (Michael)	X	
Mr. Rodriguez (Anthony)	X	
Mr. Velez (Carlos)	X	
Mr. James-Vickery (Scott), Vice Pres.	X	
Mr. Powell (Lancelot), President	X	

II. Be It Resolved, that the Hackensack Board of Education determines it is necessary to meet in Executive Session on Wednesday, August 12, 2020, to interview candidates to fill the Board vacancy, discuss **Legal matters**; and

Be It Further Resolved, that these matters will be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

Trustee Goodman motioned to go into Executive Session at 5:10 p.m., seconded by Trustee Oates

Public portion resumed at 6:52 p.m.

III. Public Comments

Prior to the commencement of public comments, the Board Attorney referred to the numerous OPRA requests and other communications made by the public. She reminded them that there is case law which permits matters that are of an advisory, deliberative and/or consultative nature to remain confidential.

The Board Secretary read the following statement:

Whereas, this special meeting is limited to taking action on time-sensitive matters,

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Hackensack Board of Education, limits tonight’s public comment to a total of 15 minutes; and

Be It Further Resolved, that the Board respectfully requests that public comment be restricted to tonight’s topic involving agenda items only.

Board Counsel set the parameters of public comments, noting it was limited to the item on the agenda and that no disparaging remarks were permitted.

A Summary of Public Comments is shown below:

- A member of the public referred to an OPRA request made regarding Board vacancy candidates that, in his opinion, was not handled in a transparent manner.

IV. Appointment to BOE Vacancy

Whereas, upon the resignation of Trustee Lara Rodriguez on June 26, 2020 a Board vacancy was created, and

Whereas, By Law 0143 speaks to the process to fill the vacancy, and

Whereas, the Trustees have 65 days from the date of the resignation to appoint a replacement, and

Whereas, applications were received from ten candidates,

Whereas, the Board interviewed the candidates earlier during closed session,

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, that Trustee Goodman nominates Detra DeNully to fill the vacancy, and serve until the next school election.

<i>Motion: Trustee Goodman</i>	<i>Second: Trustee Rodriguez</i>			
	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Abstain</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Mr. Bendezu (Julio)				X
Ms. Cogelja (Frances)				X
Mr. Coleman (Christopher)	X			
Ms. DeNully (Detra)			X	
Mr. Goodman (Ira)	X			
Mr. Oates (Michael)	X			
Mr. Rodriguez (Anthony)	X			
Mr. Velez (Carlos)	X			
Mr. James-Vickery (Scott), Vice President	X			

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Mr. Powell (Lancelot), President	X			
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V. **Board Secretary Administered Oath of Office** and Ms. DeNully participated as a Trustee in the balance of the meeting.

VI. **Finance**

VII.1. **Whereas**, the Hackensack Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and Interim School Business Administrator, adopted a 2020-2021 budget on March 23, 2020,

Whereas, the aforementioned budget was approved by the voters of Hackensack,

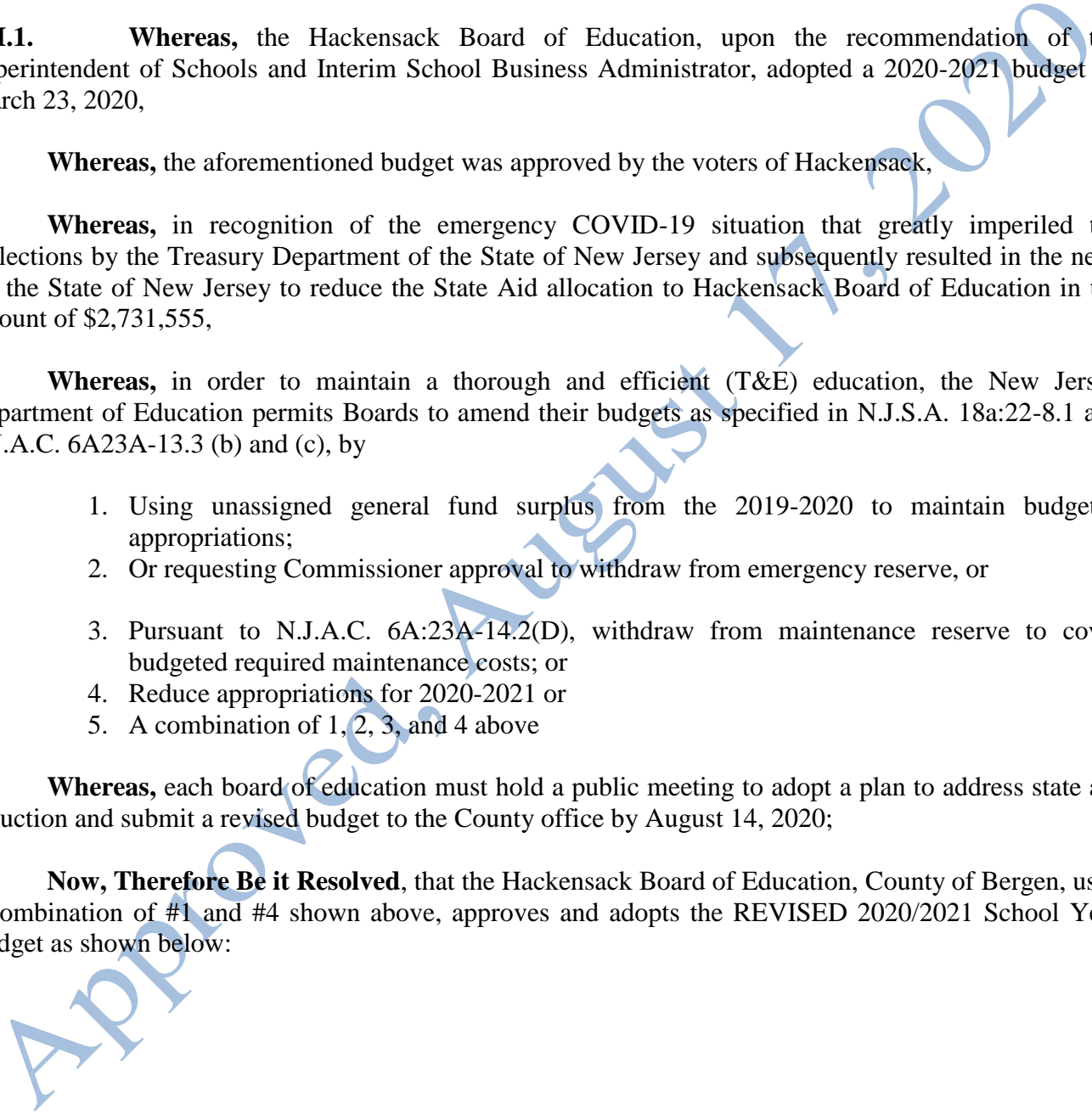
Whereas, in recognition of the emergency COVID-19 situation that greatly imperiled tax collections by the Treasury Department of the State of New Jersey and subsequently resulted in the need for the State of New Jersey to reduce the State Aid allocation to Hackensack Board of Education in the amount of \$2,731,555,

Whereas, in order to maintain a thorough and efficient (T&E) education, the New Jersey Department of Education permits Boards to amend their budgets as specified in N.J.S.A. 18a:22-8.1 and N.J.A.C. 6A23A-13.3 (b) and (c), by

1. Using unassigned general fund surplus from the 2019-2020 to maintain budgeted appropriations;
2. Or requesting Commissioner approval to withdraw from emergency reserve, or
3. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-14.2(D), withdraw from maintenance reserve to cover budgeted required maintenance costs; or
4. Reduce appropriations for 2020-2021 or
5. A combination of 1, 2, 3, and 4 above

Whereas, each board of education must hold a public meeting to adopt a plan to address state aid reduction and submit a revised budget to the County office by August 14, 2020;

Now, Therefore Be it Resolved, that the Hackensack Board of Education, County of Bergen, used a combination of #1 and #4 shown above, approves and adopts the REVISED 2020/2021 School Year Budget as shown below:



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Appropriations Adjustments:

GAAP Account Code	Account	Amount
11-000-240-105	Salary Non-Instructional Staff	-\$59,000
11-140-100-101	Salary Instructional HS Staff	-\$350,000
11-130-100-101	Salary Instructional MS Staff	-\$117,090
11-120-100-101	Salary Instructional Elementary Staff	-\$500,000
11-000-291-270	Health Insurance	-\$725,995
11-000-291-241	Pension Contributions	-\$72,135
11-000-251-832	Interest Lease/Purchase	-\$320,000
	Total	-\$2,144,220

Revenue Adjustments:

Revenue Source	Amount
Local Tax Levy	\$85,283,457
Tuition	\$6,304,991
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$410,000
Transportation	\$682,382
Special Ed	\$4,787,838
Equalization Aid	\$15,777,591
Security	\$2,121,557
Extraordinary Aid	\$731,000
Medicaid	\$209,758
Fund Balance	\$4,520,945
W/D from Cap Reserve	\$2,826,605
Preschool Aid Carryover	\$48,127
Pre-School	\$2,855,052
Other Restricted Entitlements	\$421,976
Transfer Pre-K from Operating Budget	\$769,652
Deduct Transfer from Operating Budget Pre-K	-\$769,652
Federal Grants	\$2,459,765
Total Revenues All Sources	\$129,441,044

Be it Further Resolved, that this revised 2020-2021 budget from the Hackensack Board of Education, County of Bergen, be submitted to the New Jersey Department of Education by August 14, 2020.

VII.2. Be It Resolved, that the Hackensack Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Interim SBA/Board Secretary approve the following pre-school providers and enter into a contract with each. The program expansion will be funded from the Preschool Education Aid Grant:

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- Little Learners Development Center: \$227,655
- Appletree Preschool: \$455,310

Finance Items VII.1-2:				
<i>Motion: Trustee Goodman</i>	<i>Second: Trustee Velez</i>			
	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Abstain</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Mr. Bendezu (Julio)				X
Ms. Cogelja (Frances)				X
Mr. Coleman (Christopher)	X			
Ms. DeNully (Detra)			X	
Mr. Goodman (Ira)	X			
Mr. Oates (Michael)	X			
Mr. Rodriguez (Anthony)	X			
Mr. Velez (Carlos)	X			
Mr. James-Vickery (Scott), Vice President	X			
Mr. Powell (Lancelot), President	X			

VIII. Buildings Grounds

VIII.1 Be It Resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and Interim SBA/Board Secretary, ratifies the actions taken by the firm of Remington & Vernick Engineers, Inc. to oversee all facets of the emergency removal of the Middle School Field Underground Storage Tank, including all appropriate permits and closure filings with the appropriate State agencies), located at the Middle School field, at a cost of \$16,000.

VIII.2 Be It Resolved, by the Hackensack Public Schools, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Interim SBA/Board Secretary, to accept the following changes to the scope of work to the Middle School Turf field as described below. These adjustments will be taken from the allowance of \$25,000, which is built into the contract:

- PCO#1 Ball-Stopper Netting (\$6,250.00): Provide 80' of 10' high netting over the top of the regular fence along Passaic Ave.
- PCO#2 Not approved - replace concrete sidewalk at a cost of \$16,900.00.
- PCO#3 Extend Turf (\$12,380.00): Remove existing asphalt walkway and extend artificial turf to the fence line. All gates to remain.
- PCO#4 Credit for 165' of Existing Fence (-\$6,250.00): Keep existing fence along the walkway on South West side of the field

VIII.3 Be It Resolved, by the Hackensack Public Schools, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Interim SBA/Board Secretary, to authorize the firm of Suburban Consulting

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Engineers, Inc, 96 U.S. Highway 206, Suite 101, Flanders, NJ, 07836, to provide all phases of professional architectural services to the Hackensack Board of Education for improvements to the High School Tennis Court Replacement and Resurfacing including preparation of all related documents, amendment to the Long Range Facilities Plan and submittal for review to the New Jersey Department of Education for

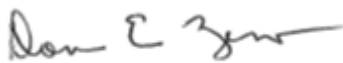
review and approval of a "school facilities capital project" at a cost of \$49,000, which includes construction administration, as detailed in their proposal dated May 21, 2020.

Buildings and Grounds Items V111.1-3:				
<i>Motion: Trustee James-Vickery</i>	<i>Second: Trustee Velez</i>			
	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Abstain</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Mr. Bendezu (Julio)				X
Ms. Cogelja (Frances)				X
Mr. Coleman (Christopher)	X			
Ms. DeNully (Detra)			X	
Mr. Goodman (Ira)	X			
Mr. Oates (Michael)	X			
Mr. Rodriguez (Anthony)	X			
Mr. Velez (Carlos)	X			
Mr. James-Vickery (Scott), Vice President	X			
Mr. Powell (Lancelot), President	X			

IX. Adjournment

Trustee Powell motioned to adjourn at 7:19 p.m., seconded by Trustee Goodman, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



Dora E. Zeno
 Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary