

**SOUTH HACKENSACK BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, January 8, 2024**

A regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on Monday, January 8, 2024, in the Gymnasium of Memorial School, 1 Dyer Avenue, South Hackensack, New Jersey.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by the President, Ms. Paladino

Ms. Paladino read the following statement:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon.

Pursuant to the New Jersey Open Public Meeting Act, Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, the Board Secretary caused notice of this meeting to be given to the public and the press on **December 15, 2023**. Said notices was posted at the South Hackensack Municipal Building, in the Lobby of Memorial School, and the South Hackensack School District Website.

Roll call was taken by Elizabete Schaefer, Board Secretary, and the following members responded to their names:

Present: Mr. Donatello, Ms. Paladino, Mr. Paladino, Mr. Tornambe, Mr. Yannetti, Mrs. Zanca

Absent: Ms. Davis

Also Present: Dr. Aguilar, Mr. Chirichella, Ms. Schaefer

6 people in attendance

Ms. Paladino led the Board in the Flag salute

**Presentations:** A presentation was made to Mr. Polanco. After more than 16 years at Memorial School, Mr. Polanco was retireming from the district. Mr. Chirichella and the Board thanked him for his service to Memorial School and wished him all the best in his retirement. Mr. Polanco thanked the board for all the years of kindness and support the district has given him.

**Public Discussion on Agenda Resolutions:** None

**Ms. Paladino read the following statement:**

Residents are requested to state their names, addresses and subject matter. Issues raised by members of the public may or may not be responded to by the Board. All comments will be considered and a response will be forthcoming if and when appropriate. The Board asks that

members of the public be courteous and mindful of the rights of other individuals when speaking. Specifically, comments regarding students and employees of the District are discouraged and will not be responded to by the Board. Students and employees have specific legal rights afforded by the laws of New Jersey. The Board bears no responsibility nor will it be liable for any comments made by members of the public. Members of the public should consider their comments in light of the legal rights of those affected or identified in their comments and be aware that they are legally responsible and liable for their comments.

Approval of Minutes: 11/13/23, 12/11/23

(On file in the business office) moved by Mr. Tornambe , seconded by Mr. Paladino

Ayes: Mr. Donatello, Ms. Paladino, Mr. Paladino, Mr. Tornambe, Mr. Yannetti, Mrs. Zanca  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Ms. Davis

Approval of Correspondence: None

Report of the Superintendent:

Mr. Chirichella opened his discussion by giving the board the current enrollment which is at 240 students. He shared some good news with the board which included Ms. Carbah's 4th grade homeroom as the Bulldogs of the Month for the best attendance for the month of December. Other matters discussed included the district hosting the South Hackensack Invitational Basketball Tournament which will run from Wednesday through Friday. Mr. Chirichella thanked the coaching staff for all their hard work in setting up the tournament and the 8th grade parents for volunteering their time to assist with the operations. A Pep Rally is scheduled for Wednesday to kick things off. The MP2 is coming to a close at the end of this month and the Honor Roll Assembly is scheduled for February 2nd, at 2:30 p.m. He informed the board that the Negotiations Committee is currently working on the teachers contract negotiations and that the 2024-2025 budget preparations are currently being worked together with him and the business office. A draft will be presented to the Policy and Finance Committee soon. He informed the board that the February 12, 2024 meeting has to be changed either the location or date due to the BYBL Tournament that is going to be held at Memorial School during February. The board agreed to move the date to February 5, 2024.

Ms. Paladino asked if there were any questions on the resolutions presented. No questions or comments were voiced on any of the resolutions presented.

OLD BUSINESS: Mr. Chirichella discussed the replacement of the banners in the gymnasium which he continues to work with Mr. Ramagli on which is the best way to have these replaced. Once quotes are received he will share with the board.

NEW BUSINESS:

The following resolutions were moved by Mr. Yannetti seconded by Mr. Donatello

**EDUCATION**

1. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the following for the school year 2023-2024:

*Accept Monthly Discipline Report*

Month	In-School Suspensions
September 2023	1
October 2023	0
November 2023	2
December 2023	3

2. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the following for the school year 2023-2024:

*Accept Monthly Superintendent HIB Report and approves the actions recommended by the Superintendent for the following incidents: (if applicable)*

Month	HIB Incidents
September 2023	1
October 2023	1
November 2023	0
December 2023	0

3. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the following for the school year 2023-2024:  
*The Monthly District Calendar\* (Attachment A )*
4. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the submission of the Student Safety Data System (SSDS). *(on file Superintendent's Office)*
5. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the agreement between Delta-T Group and the South Hackensack Board of Education for staffing services effective December 19, 2023 to June 30, 2024 *(on file in the business office)*

6. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the submission of the Paraprofessional Staff Statement of Assurance SOA. *(on file Superintendent's office)*
7. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the following request for professional development:

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Professional Development</u></b>	<b><u>Date/Time</u></b>	<b><u>Cost</u></b>
Lisette Vidal	Lesson Share of Elementary Art Patrick Villano Elementary School, Emerson NJ	February 7, 2024 9:00am-3:00pm	\$0

8. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the following field trip(s):

<b><u>Teacher</u></b>	<b><u>Grade(s)</u></b>	<b><u>Trip</u></b>	<b><u>Date(s)</u></b>	<b><u>Time</u></b>
Valentine Thom	6th	MS Science Classroom	May 13, 2024	9:00am-2:30pm
Valentine Thom	6th	Hackensack River Study WT/Eco-Cruise Laurel Hill Park Secaucus, NJ	May 14, 2024	9:00am-2:30pm
Valentine Thom	6th	Hackensack River Study Mill Creek Point Park Secaucus, NJ	May 15, 2024	9:00am-2:30pm

### **SPECIAL EDUCATION**

9. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the new placement of the Special Education student listed below for the 2023-2024 school year effective date December 11, 2023 to June, 2024

<b>Student ID#</b>	<b>School Attending</b>	<b>Tuition (Does not include Transportation)</b>	<b>Other Related Services</b>
0108	Ridgefield School/ Shaler Start date: 12/11/2023	\$19,533.00	<i>Speech/OT/PT</i>  <i>\$90/30 minute session</i>

10. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the new placements of the Special Education students listed below for the 2023-2024 school year effective date January 2, 2024 to June, 2024

<b>Student ID#</b>	<b>School Attending</b>	<b>Tuition (Does not include Transportation)</b>	<b>Other Related Services</b>
0155	Ridgefield Park	\$11,854.80	<i>OT</i> <i>\$90.00/30 Minute</i> <i>sessions</i> <i>(\$1,890.00)</i>
0156	Ridgefield Park	\$39,627.00	<i>included with Tuition</i>

### **PERSONNEL**

11. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the updated substitute list for the 2023-2024 school year.

12. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the appointment of the following individual for the 2023-2024 school year, effective January 9, 2024 to June 30, 2024.

Name	Hourly Rate	Position
Patricia Lemonie	\$20/per hour <i>*Not to exceed 15 hours per week</i>	National School Lunch Program & Certification Coordinator

13. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the paid maternity leave for staff #0222 effective April 22, 2024 to June 17, 2024 and then unpaid FMLA, from June 18, 2024 to November 3, 2024. *(doctor's note on file)*
14. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the unpaid leave for staff #00189 effective January 8, 24 to February 5, 2024
15. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education appoint the following staff members for the extracurricular teaching duties for school year 2023-2024 at the negotiated salary agreed upon in the 2020-2024 agreement between the Education Association of South Hackensack and the South Hackensack Board of Education.

Name	Extracurricular Activity
Lisette Vidal & Leslie Carter	Cultural Arts Performance

16. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the resignation of the individual listed below effective January 5, 2024 with regret.

Name	Position
Robert Lemonie	Custodian

## **POLICY**

**NONE**

## **FINANCE**

17. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the Business Administrator to pay January 2024 bills.
18. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the following reports in accordance with NJAC 6A:23-2.11(a) and NJAC 6A:23-2.11(b). (*Attachment B*)

Board Secretary's Report  
Treasurer's Report  
Monthly Fund Transfer Report  
November 2023

19. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education pursuant to NJAC 6A:23-2.11-4 and upon consultation with district officials, certifies that to the best of its knowledge, no major account of funds have been over expended in violation of NJAC 6A:23-2.11(a) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's needs.
20. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the actual payroll for the month of December 2023 in the amount of \$361,983.53 that the President of the Board, the School Business Administrator and the Superintendent be, and they hereby are, authorized to sign warrants up to and including the above.
21. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the estimated payroll for the month of January 2024 in the amount of \$375,000 the President of the Board, the School Business Administrator and the Superintendent be, and they hereby are, authorized to sign warrants up to and including the above \$375,000.

22. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the Bill List for December 2023.

*(Attachment C)*

Fund 10	\$ 1,074,971.44
Fund 20	\$ 38,403.40
Fund 30	\$ 0
Fund 40	\$ 0
Fund 50	\$ 11,746.87
Total	\$ 1,125,121.71

23. Be it Resolved that the Board of Education approve the Business Administrator to approve bids, approve account transfers, pay bills, approve construction change orders, in between board meeting on an emergency basis with lists of such bids, transfers, payments, construction change orders subject to presentation and ratification at the next business meeting of the board.

**Roll Call:**

Ayes: Mr. Donatello, Ms. Paladino, Mr. Paladino, Mr. Tornambe, Mr. Yannetti,  
Mrs. Zanca  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Ms. Davis

**Resolutions Approved**

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING: Mr. Padalino discussed the heating system in the district. Mr. Aguilar informed the board that he had met with Automatic Logic in regards to some of the issues within the district regarding the regulation of the heating system. They are currently working on resolving this matter. Adjustments were made so that the controls are operating correctly and during the hours that the district is in session. This adjustment to the controls should impact a decrease in the energy consumption. Mr. Paladino also asked Mr. Aguilar to look into Solar panels for the district. Mr. Paladino wanted to have the district bring back more cultural arts, field trips and activities including the Science Fair. Since the district is currently working on the budget this would be a great time to discuss and have some of these in place for the 2024-2025 school year. Mr. Chirichella stated that the board just approved 2 staff members to work on a cultural arts performance for this spring. In regards to field trips, the district does support the trips, but the cost of the transportation continues to be externally high. Due to the high costs of buses the burden to offset the cost of the trip would fall on the students and the parents. Students are currently working on projects and going to have a market fair sometime in the spring to show the products they are making and selling them as part of financial literacy. The students are also involved with the Solar Car racing that Mrs. Thom has been involved with the students for a couple of years now.



**Private Session:**

Mr. Tornambe motioned, Mr. Donatello seconded to Private session @7:34 p.m. –  
Personnel/Student Matters

Whereas, in accordance with provision of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, the South Hackensack Board of Education wishes to meet in Private Session for the purposes of discussing matters of confidential nature relating to Personnel/Student Matters

Now, Therefore Be it Resolved, that the South Hackensack Board of Education adjourn to Private Session for the purpose of discussing such matters, and

Be It Further Resolved, that the public be informed of these matters as soon as the need to Remain confidential is no longer necessary at a future date to be determined.

Mr. Donatello motioned, Mr. Yannetti seconded, to return to public session @8:22 p.m.

**Adjournment:**

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Moved by Mr. Tornambe, seconded by Mr. Donatello

All in favor

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Alfredo Aguilar  
Board Secretary