

**SOUTH HACKENSACK BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, February 8, 2021**

A regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on Monday, February 8, 2021. Meeting was held remotely through the use of electronic equipment.

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

Mr. Donatello 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 22, 2020 (remote meeting notice January 25, 2021) 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: Ms. Davis, Mr. Donatello, Mr. Lemonie, Ms. Paladino, Mrs. Regan, Mr. Tornambe, Mr. Yannetti

Absent: None

Also Present: Mark Hayes, Elizabete Schaefer, Jason Chirichella

Approximately 18 people in attendance

Mr. Donatello led the Board in the Flag salute

Presentations: None

Public Discussion on Agenda Resolutions: None

Mr. Donatello 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:** 12/14/20, 12/30/21, 1/4/21. 1/14/21

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

Ayes:	Ms. Davis, Mr. Donatello, Mr. Lemonie, Ms. Paladino, Mrs. Regan Mr. Tornambe, Mr. Yannetti
Nays:	None
Abstain:	Mrs. Regan (minutes of 12/14/20 and 12/30/20)
Absent:	None

**Approval of Correspondence:** None

**Report of the Interim Superintendent:**

Dr. Hayes opened his discussion by giving the board the current enrollment for the district which is at 264. He informed the board that the district held its Honor Roll assembly for Marking Period 2 remotely earlier that day. He congratulated the sixteen students that had achieved high academic honor roll and a total of thirty students that received honor roll. Dr. Hayes also congratulated student Jeremiah Patino as the student of the Marking Period. He thanked the teachers for a fine job that they continue to do. Dr. Hayes continued his report by informing the board that the district had resumed in person/hybrid learning with a 92% attendance rate and that it was an overall smooth reopening. Dr. Hayes thanked the instructional staff, the administrative staff, the office staff and the custodial staff for all their hard work to make the reopening of school a success. He stated that the district had issues with the snow removal efforts due to the school parking lot therefore making it difficult for the district to open. Dr. Hayes stated that Mr. Donatello, Mr. Chirichella and himself, have a tentative plan in place to ensure that this unfortunate incident does not happen again. He stated that the Police department notified the community that any one parked in the parking lot of the school needed to have their cars removed. Moving forward during a snowstorm the parking lot will be partitioned off so that the surrounding neighbors can only use one area instead of the whole parking lot therefore making it easier for snow removal and staff to park. Mr. Donatello asked if the board had any questions for the Interim Superintendent on his report. Ms. Davis asked how the extended curriculum was going with the students. Mr. Chirichella stated that the program just started last Thursday but he would keep the board updated on that. No other questions were voiced. Mr. Donatello then asked if there were any questions or comments on the consent agenda. No questions or comments were voiced on any of the resolutions.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

The following resolutions were moved by Mrs. Regan, seconded by Mr. Lemonie

1. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the following for the school year 2020-21:

Accept Monthly Discipline Report

Month	In-School Suspensions
September 2020	0
October 2020	0
November 2020	0
December 2020	0
January 2021	0

2. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the following for the school year 2020-2021:

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

Month	HIB Incidents
September 2020	0
October 2020	0
November 2020	0
December 2020	0
January 2021	0

3. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the following for the school year 2020-21:

The monthly district calendar (*Attachment A*)

4. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the district calendar for the school year 2021-2022. (*Attachment B*)

5. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the virtual field trip request(s) below.

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Trip</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Cost</b>
4	4th Grade Virtual Tour of The State House/Make-A-Law Program in Trenton	June 2, 2021	10:00-11:00 a.m.	\$0
4	4th Grade Virtual Tour of The State House/Make-A-Law Program in Trenton	June 4, 2021	10:00-11:00 a.m.	\$0
4	Old Barracks	June 10, 2021	9:45-11:15 a.m.	\$275

6. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the virtual professional development request(s) below for the school year 2020-2021.

<b>Faculty</b>	<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	<b>Professional Development</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Jason Chirichella	February 9 2:00 p.m.	The Four Biggest Challenges of Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports (MTSS) During Remote Learning: How Districts Are Adapting	\$0
Priscilla Gonzalez Jason Chirichella	February 10 & 11 10:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.	Professional Grant Development Workshop: Master the Techniques of Writing Superior Winning Proposals	\$550 each \$1,100 total
Anne Turtoro Jeff Badre	February 22-March 5 asynchronous	NJSLA District Test and Technology Training	\$0

Mary Gould	May 25, 26 & 27	NJTESOL	\$299 each
Jason Chirichella	8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	New Jersey Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages	\$598 total
			<i>Paid with Title III funds</i>

7. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the request for the South Hackensack Strikers to use Memorial School's soccer field March 1 - June 30 for practices Monday-Friday 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. and games on Saturdays and Sundays 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. *(as presented)*
  
8. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the request for Evan Calendrillo to complete Clinical Practice 1 Placement for Health and Physical Education February 9-May 14, 2021. *(as presented)*
  
9. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools the South Hackensack Board of Education ratify the appointment of the following staff member for the Extended Curriculum Program for the school year 2020-2021 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 effective February 4, 2021.

Teacher	Grade Bands	Subjects	Time	Maximum # of Days/Week
Michele Petrella	6-8	ELA/Math	3:30-4:30 p.m.	2 x wk 30 minutes each subject area

10. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools the South Hackensack Board of Education ratify the contract with the State of New Jersey Department of Human Resources Commission of the Blind and Visually Impaired for the school year 2020-2021 for student # 90042 in the amount of \$1,157.43 effective January 15, 2021 - June 30, 2021.

11. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools the South Hackensack Board of Education ratify the contract between Bergen County Special Services School District (BCSS) and the South Hackensack School District for Assistive Technology ongoing services for student #201 and teachers at a cost not to exceed \$465.00.
12. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the "SEMI" Special Education Medicaid Initiative waiver for the school year 2021-2022.
13. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools the South Hackensack Board of Education approve a Debt Service wire Transfer of \$510,000.00 for the payment of principal and \$42,897.50 for the payment of interest.
14. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the Business Administrator to pay February 2021 bills.
15. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Interim 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 C)*

Board Secretary's Report  
Treasurer's Report  
Monthly Fund Transfer Report  
December 2020

16. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Interim 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.
17. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the actual payroll for the month of January 2021 in the amount of \$333,583.21 that the President of the Board, the School Business Administrator and the Interim Superintendent be, and they hereby are, authorized to sign warrants up to and including the above.

18. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the estimated payroll for the month of February 2021 in the amount of \$330,000 the President of the Board, the School Business Administrator and the Interim Superintendent be, and they hereby are, authorized to sign warrants up to and including the above \$330,000.

19. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the Bill List for January 2021.

*(Attachment D)*

Fund 10	\$	704,813.36
Fund 20	\$	20,720.75
Fund 30	\$	0
Fund 40	\$	0
Fund 50	\$	881.63
Total	\$	726,415.74

**Roll Call:**

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

**Resolutions Approved**

**OPEN PUBLIC HEARING:** Mr. Peterson questioned when the district would be discussing the next phase of the reopening of school. Mr. Chirichella stated that the restart committee would be meeting before the end of February to discuss Phase 3 of the plan. Mr. Chirichella further emphasized that this decision of Phase 3 will still be driven by a lot of data from the New Jersey State Department of Health. Mr. Chirichella stated that each district is different - some districts continue to be all remote and some are on a cohort schedule. Ms. Paladino stated that Hackensack is on a hybrid/cohort schedule similar to South Hackensack. Dr. Hayes stated that there are 15 school districts that are part of the South Bergen Jointure Commission and that we all try to stay in touch with those districts. Mr. Peterson asked that even though the district was closed for in person learning for South Hackensack resident students - the district had the school opened for the South Bergen Jointure Commission students. Dr. Hayes stated that the South Bergen Jointure is run by a different administration. These students are special education students with IEP's and their needs are different and are taught in smaller group sizes. Even though the Jointure was in person longer than South Hackensack resident students Mr. Chirichella and Dr. Hayes stated that there had been some time where they also went full remote due to Covid. Mr. Peterson just could not understand why South Hackensack students were remote for so many months from November to February. He asked who would have made that

decision. Dr. Hayes stated that it was a recommendation made by the Interim Superintendent and discussed with the Board. Dr. Hayes stated the district monitors data provided by the New Jersey Department of Health, the local South Hackensack data and the Bergen County data. The decision to remain remote was based on data the district had for our region which spoke of a high transmission rate. For this reason the recommendation to the board was to close due to the prediction of the holiday surge of Covid cases. Dr. Hayes stated that the return to a cohort schedule in January was further delayed because the surge was higher than expected. He also stated that the snowstorms that New Jersey experienced further delayed the re-opening of in person teaching. Dr. Hayes further stated that the majority of schools are still doing the cohort/hybrid schedule. Mr. Donatello asked if by keeping the district on a cohort/hybrid schedule that we have been able to keep both students and teaching staff exposed to Covid very low. Dr. Hayes stated that he believes that to be correct. No more public comments were voiced. Ms. Davis acknowledged and congratulated all the students that made the honor roll and the student of the marking period. She thanked the administration and the teaching staff for all their leadership during this difficult time.

**PRIVATE SESSION:** None

**Adjournment:**

Meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Moved by Mr. Lemonie, seconded by Ms. Davis

All in favor

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabete Schaefer  
Board Secretary



**February 2021 Meeting (January 2021 Correspondence)**

***No correspondence***