

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
WEST ESSEX REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
March 1, 2021  
Board Secretary's Memorandum

AMENDED

In accordance with the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs Local Operational Guidance – Covid-19: Guidance for Remote Public Meetings in New Jersey.

DATE

Monday, March 1, 2021

PLACE

Remote Meeting

EXECUTIVE SESSION

6:01 P.M.

ADJOURNED

7:21 P.M.

CALLED TO ORDER

7:33 P.M.

ADJOURNED

8:58 P.M.

RECONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

9:00 P.M.

ADJOURNED

9:27 P.M.

OPEN MEETING:

Ms. Maryadele Wojtowicz, Board President, presided and voiced the call to order in Executive Session at 6:01 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by Mr. Perrotti Seconded by Mr. Stampone to approve the following motion:

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-11, permits boards of education to meet in closed session to discuss certain matters;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the West Essex Regional Board of Education adjourns to Executive Session to discuss Personnel, Student, Negotiations and/or Litigation matters; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that public release of these discussions will occur when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

OPEN MEETING:

The Board reconvened from Executive Session and Ms. Maryadele Wojtowicz, President, presided and voiced the call to order at 7:33 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL:

Ms. C. Egan

Ms. A. Fahey

Ms. J. Marcus

Mr. F. Perrotti - Left at 7:05 PM, returned at 7:33 PM, left at 8:58 PM

Mr. A. Rubinich

Ms. D. Sacco-Calderone – Vice-President

Ms. J. Skelton

Mr. R. Stampone

Ms. M. Wojtowicz – President

Administration:

Mr. Damion Macioci, Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Melissa Kida, Board Secretary/Business Administrator

**West Essex Regional Board of Education**  
**MINUTES – March 1, 2021**

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF MEETING:**

Notice of the March 1, 2021 meeting of the Board of Education was e-mailed to the Clerks of the Boroughs of Essex Fells, North Caldwell and Roseland and to the Township of Fairfield, and to the editor of The Progress on January 7, 2021 and The Star Ledger on the same day.

**BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT:**

**Ms. Wojtowicz** thanked Administration for their continuing efforts in trying to provide the best possible learning environment for the students during this challenging time. Ms. Wojtowicz commented on the resumption of the district’s curriculum presentations. Ms. Wojtowicz announced that the Monday, April 12<sup>th</sup> Board meeting has been changed to Wednesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:**

**Mr. Macioci** provided an update on the status of Mr. Anthony Minnella, the district’s Athletic Director, who sustained injuries in a recent motor vehicle accident. He stated that reopening discussions would begin the week of March 8<sup>th</sup>, in an effort to begin planning for marking period 4. He reiterated that the Monday, April 12<sup>th</sup> Board meeting has been changed to Wednesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Macioci provided a COVID update, guidance on travel restrictions relative to the upcoming spring break, and 6’ social distancing guidelines.

**Mr. Macioci** and **Mr. Ryan Gupta**, Director of Curriculum, provided an update on the progress made relative to attainment of the district’s goals.

**Dr. Gina Donlevie**, Middle School Principal, commented on the following:

- 2 cohort schedule for 3<sup>rd</sup> marking period
- MS scheduling season
- Multicultural announcements/activities
- Barbara Bruchac Hero Assembly

**Mr. Caesar Diliberto**, High School Principal, commented on the following:

- Class of 2021 Valedictorian and Salutatorian
- 3<sup>rd</sup> MP ShopRite Stars
- Single cohort schedule for 3<sup>rd</sup> marking period
- Upcoming Junior Prom and Senior Ball update

**Mr. Greg Aschoff**, Supervisor of Mathematics and Business, provided an update on the status of his departmental goals relative to the district’s goals. He commented on his staff members’ efforts and creativity in surmounting teaching challenges during this difficult time.

**COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS:**

**Ms. Sacco-Calderone** thanked Mr. Aschoff for his presentation, specifically his update on the accomplishments of recent WE graduates. She suggested other departments adopt this initiative as well.

West Essex Regional Board of Education  
MINUTES – March 1, 2021

Mr. Rubinich thanked Administrators for their comprehensive updates on steps taken to address individual student's academic performance and progress during this difficult time.

**BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS/COMMENTS:**

Safety & Security Committee – Ms. Sacco-Calderone, Committee Chair, commented that the Committee met on Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, and discussed: all security measures in place; continuation of NJ Department of Education mandated drills; secure radio and phone communications; Sandy Hook Promise; K-12 assessments; first aid certifications; and the district's partnership with the Recreation Departments to commence outdoor usage for spring and summer athletic programs.

Policy Committee – Ms. Fahey, Committee Chair, commented that the Committee met on Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, and discussed all the policies contained in Alert 222. Ms. Fahey provided all present with a summarization of the mandated changes made to each policy. Ms. Fahey stated that action on these policies would be taken on this evening's agenda. Also discussed was the protocol and timeline for the distribution of committee minutes.

Sustainable Jersey Schools Committee – Ms. Egan, Committee Chair, commented that the Committee met and discussed curriculum initiatives implemented by department heads in an effort to achieve the Silver Certification this year. She commented on an upcoming tree planting project.

Finance & Physical Plant Management Committee – Mr. Perrotti, Committee Chair, commented that the Committee met on Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, and discussed completed and upcoming facility upgrades and the 2021/2022 tentative budget.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Ms. Wojtowicz opened the floor to the public for comments on agenda items. Hearing none, she closed the floor and resumed the meeting.

West Essex Regional Board of Education  
FINANCE– March 1, 2021

The following finance motions are made at the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools:

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Anything placed on this agenda, Items 1- 5, will be voted upon in one motion.  
Motion by Mr. Stampone Seconded by Mr. Perrotti to approve the following motions:

West Essex Regional Board of Education  
FINANCE– March 1, 2021

1. To approve the bills and claims check number 045881 through check number 045976 and check number 045978 through check number 045998 and check number 510634 through check number 510637 and check number 900037.  
Payroll check number 500962 through check number 500963.  
Void check numbers 045502, 045561, 045621, and 045977.  
Totaling: \$1,957,798.36  
Enclosures 1F – 5F
2. To approve the **Student Activity Check Register** from February 6, 2021 through February 26, 2021, check number 12114 through check number 12139.  
Totaling: \$8,984.63  
Enclosures 6F – 7F
3. To approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of **February 8, 2021**.  
Enclosures 8F – 13F
4. To approve the proposal from **DiCara Rubino Architects** for professional services pertaining to the **Procurement Specifications of Classroom Unit Ventilators** at a cost of \$10,500.00, plus reimbursable expenses.
5. To authorize the Board Secretary to advertise for the **Electrical Service Upgrade at West Essex Middle School** Project as per specifications and bid documents prepared by **DiCara Rubino Architects**.

ROLL CALL:	Yes:	Ms. Egan, Ms. Fahey, Ms. Marcus, Mr. Perrotti, Mr. Rubinich, Ms. Sacco-Calderone, Ms. Skelton, Mr. Stampone and President Wojtowicz
	No:	None
	Abstain:	None
	Absent:	None

West Essex Regional Board of Education  
PERSONNEL – March 1, 2021

The following personnel motions are made at the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools:

CONSENT AGENDA

Anything placed on this agenda, Items 1- 14, will be voted upon in one motion.

Motion by Mr. Perrotti Seconded by Ms. Sacco-Calderone to approve the following motions:

West Essex Regional Board of Education  
PERSONNEL – March 1, 2021

1. To approve the appointment of **Amanda Massaker** as a School Psychologist and Psychological Evaluator in the West Essex Regional School District to provide Child Study Team evaluations, for the 2020/2021 school year, at the rate of \$319.80 per diem, with the days to be assigned at the discretion of the Superintendent of Schools.
2. To approve **Amanda Massaker** to work in the summer to provide Child Study Team evaluations, between July 1, 2021 and August 31, 2021, as needed, at the rate of \$319.80 per diem, with the days to be assigned at the discretion of the Superintendent of Schools.
3. To approve a maternity/disability leave of absence for **Kimberly Greulich**, Guidance Counselor assigned to West Essex Regional High School, beginning **September 1, 2021** through **November 24, 2021**, with a return date of **November 29, 2021**.
4. To approve a maternity/disability leave of absence for **Bettina Plesnitzer**, Health/Physical Education teacher assigned to West Essex Regional High School, beginning on or about **April 19, 2021** through **November 30, 2021**, with a return date of **December 1, 2021**.
5. To approve the *extension* of a family leave of absence for **Olivia Macaluso**, English teacher assigned to West Essex Regional High School, from **March 1, 2021** through **June 30, 2021**, with a return date of **September 1, 2021**.
6. To approve the following **6<sup>th</sup> period assignments** effective February 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021, at the stipend amount of \$4,500:

SUBJECT	TEACHER
English III CPA	Chris Hermosilla
English III CPA	Aaron Myerson
English IV Class and Lit H S2	Bryan McNaught
English IV True Crime CPA S2	Alicia Perez
Public Speaking CPA S2	Tom Collins

7. To approve the *extension* of a maternity/disability leave of absence for **Taylor Lang**, School Social Worker assigned to West Essex Regional High School, from **March 22, 2021** through **April 30, 2021**, with a return date of **May 3, 2021**.
8. To approve the *extension* of a maternity/disability leave of absence for **Crystal Zagleski**, Mathematics teacher assigned to West Essex Regional High School, from **June 1, 2021** through **June 30, 2021**, with a return date of **September 1, 2021**.
9. To approve the following additional individual to work throughout the 2020/2021 athletic seasons, at the rates listed in Schedule E – Sports Non-Coaching Positions:  
**Carissa Franzi**

West Essex Regional Board of Education  
PERSONNEL – March 1, 2021

10. To *amend* Personnel Motion #6 previously approved at the December 7, 2020 Board meeting, approving 2020/2021 NJSIAA Season 3 sports, to read:

SPORT                      CANDIDATE                      POSITION                      STEP                      STIPEND

Girls' Volleyball

Kira Wildes	Assistant	5	\$7,469	<i>(Pro-rated up to, on or about March 19th)</i>
Bryan McNaught	Assistant	5	7,469	

11. To approve virtual contact, practice start and season end dates for each Season 4 sport as per updated NJSIAA guidelines:

SPORT	VIRTUAL CONTACT DATE	PRACTICE START DATE	SEASON END DATE
Boys Tennis	3/01/21	3/26/21	6/20/21
Golf	3/01/21	4/01/21	6/30/21
All other spring sports*	3/01/21	4/01/21	6/20/21

*\*Early start for baseball/softball pitchers and catchers is Friday, March 26, 2021*

12. To approve the following 2020/2021 NJSIAA Season 4\* Coaching appointments:

SPORT                      CANDIDATE                      POSITION                      STEP                      STIPEND

Baseball

Eric Johnson	Head Coach	5	\$10,652
Chris Checchetto	Assistant	5	7,469
Tom Jones	Assistant	5	7,469
Ryan Logan	Assistant	5	7,469
Gary Colucci	Volunteer		
John Sorrentino	Volunteer		

7/8 Baseball

Tim Walsh	7/8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	5	\$6,137
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Softball

Andrea Llauget	Head Coach	5	\$10,652
Jason Ahmed	Assistant	5	7,469
Brianna LaFiura	Assistant	2	6,152

7/8 Softball

Louis Ferrara	7/8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	5	\$6,137
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\*[NOTE: If the Board or the State suspends, restricts, or prohibits the 2020/2021 NJSIAA Season 4, these appointments shall be rescinded and the advisors shall be paid a prorated amount of their stipend, if any, for services actually rendered.]

West Essex Regional Board of Education  
PERSONNEL – March 1, 2021

12. (continued)  
To approve the following 2020/2021 NJSIAA Season 4\* Coaching appointments:

<u>SPORT</u>	<u>CANDIDATE</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>STEP</u>	<u>STIPEND</u>
<u>Boys Lacrosse</u>				
	Justin Schwindel	Head Coach	5	\$10,652
	Angelo Cilenti	Assistant	5	7,469
	Tim Martin	Assistant	5	7,469
	James Quinless	Assistant	5	7,469
<u>Girls Lacrosse</u>				
	Bettina Plesnitzer	Head Coach	5	\$10,652
	Jarrod Cappello	Assistant	5	7,469
	Gianna D'Urso	Assistant	5	7,469
	Samantha Minnella	Assistant	5	7,469
	Jill Cosse	Volunteer		
	Carissa Franzl	Volunteer		
<u>Golf</u>				
	John Regan	Head Coach	5	\$6,824
	Dean Ratajczak	Assistant	4	4,706
	David Semaya	Volunteer		
<u>Boys Tennis</u>				
	Jeffrey Martin	Head Coach	2	\$6,224
	Toni-Anne Cavallo	Assistant	5	4,914
	David Semaya	Volunteer		
<u>Boys Volleyball</u>				
	Bryan McNaught	Head Coach	5	\$10,652
	Greg Ruggiero	Assistant	5	7,469
<u>Boys Track</u>				
	Anthony Lambo	Head Coach	5	\$10,652
	Ronald Rowe	Assistant	5	7,469
	Mike Markey	Assistant	5	7,469
<u>Girls' Track</u>				
	Amber Tobia	Head Coach	1	\$8,881
	Francesca Petracco	Assistant	3	6,542
				<i>(Pro-rated pending receipt of mandatory paperwork)</i>
	Shannon Kelly	Assistant	5	7,469
	Lanaya Torres	Volunteer		

\*[NOTE: If the Board or the State suspends, restricts, or prohibits the 2020/2021 NJSIAA Season 4, these appointments shall be rescinded and the advisors shall be paid a prorated amount of their stipend, if any, for services actually rendered.]

West Essex Regional Board of Education  
PERSONNEL – March 1, 2021

12. (continued)  
To approve the following **2020/2021 NJSIAA Season 4\*** Coaching appointments:

<u>SPORT</u>	<u>CANDIDATE</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>STEP</u>	<u>STIPEND</u>
<u>B/G Track</u>				
	Nicolette Culkin	Assistant Coach	1	\$5,759
	Brett Florance	Assistant	3	6,542
<u>7/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Track</u>				
	Danielle Purciello	7/8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	4	\$5,859
	Gabrielle Maffei	7/8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	1	5,391
<u>Strength Coach</u>				
	Chris Benacquista	Head Coach	5	\$6,824
	Dominick Linsalato	Assistant	5	4,914

\*[**NOTE:** If the Board or the State suspends, restricts, or prohibits the 2020/2021 NJSIAA Season 4, these appointments shall be rescinded and the advisors shall be paid a prorated amount of their stipend, if any, for services actually rendered.]

13. To approve **Juliann Hoebee** to the position of Acting Supervisor of Health/Physical Education at a stipend amount of \$2,400 per month beginning **March 1, 2021** until the return of the Athletic Director, who is on a medical leave of absence.
14. To approve **Gary J. Farishian** to the position of Acting Athletic Director at the rate of \$450.00 per diem, beginning **March 1, 2021**, pending completion of mandatory paperwork, until the return of the Athletic Director, who is on a medical leave of absence.

**ROLL CALL:** Yes: Ms. Egan, Ms. Fahey, Ms. Marcus, Mr. Perrotti,  
Mr. Rubinich, Ms. Sacco-Calderone, Ms. Skelton,  
Mr. Stampone and President Wojtowicz

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

West Essex Regional Board of Education  
CURRICULUM/SPECIAL EDUCATION – March 1, 2021

The following curriculum/special education motions are made at the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools:

CONSENT AGENDA

Anything placed on this agenda, Items **1 - 3**, will be voted upon in one motion.  
Motion by Mr. Rubinich Seconded by Ms. Egan to approve the following motions:



West Essex Regional Board of Education  
CURRICULUM/SPECIAL EDUCATION – March 1, 2021

1. To approve the following requests for Professional Development:

Employee Name	Conference/Workshop	Location	Date(s)	Expenses
Bauer, Gabriella	Preparing Families to Support Youth on the Autism Spectrum as they Transition to Adulthood	On-line	Friday 04/16/21	Conference Fee: No Cost
Bauer, Gabriella	Beyond Traditional Job Development	On-line	Friday 05/14/21	Conference Fee: No Cost

2. To approve AP Test Prep sessions for the following courses, for the 2020/2021 school year, at the rate of \$49 per hour, not to exceed six (6) hours:

American Government	Computer Science A	French	Physics I
Art History	Computer Science Principles	Human Geography	Physics II
Biology	Drawing	Italian	Seminar
Calculus AB	English Language & Composition	Latin	Spanish
Calculus BC	English Literature	Macroeconomics	Statistics
Chemistry	Environmental Science	Microeconomics	US History II
Chinese	European History	Music Theory	

3. To approve *White Glove Community Care, Inc.* as a provider of Registered Nursing Services for **Student ID# 52100013**, at a rate of \$60 per hour for registered nurses, not to exceed 8 hours per day, and \$48 per hour for licensed practical nurses, not to exceed 8 hours per day, from March 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021.

ROLL CALL: Yes: Ms. Egan, Ms. Fahey, Ms. Marcus, Mr. Perrotti,  
Mr. Rubinich, Ms. Sacco-Calderone, Ms. Skelton,  
Mr. Stampone and President Wojtowicz  
No: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None

West Essex Regional Board of Education  
MISCELLANEOUS – March 1, 2021

The following miscellaneous motions are made at the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools:

CONSENT AGENDA

Anything placed on this agenda, Items 1 - 8, will be voted upon in one motion.  
Motion by Ms. Skelton Seconded by Ms. Egan to approve the following motions:

1. To approve the *revised* 2020/2021 transportation bus route, as appended.

Enclosure 1M

West Essex Regional Board of Education  
MISCELLANEOUS – March 1, 2021

2. WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the following policies need to be adopted expeditiously in order to comply with state mandates; and

WHEREAS, Robert's Rules of Order permits the suspension of rules in order to allow for the acceptance of a resolution that permits adoption of a policy on first and second reading in one meeting for health and safety reasons; and

WHEREAS, the West Essex Regional Board of Education finds that it is in the best interest of the students attending both West Essex Regional Middle School and West Essex Regional High School for the Board to adopt the following policies with first and second readings in one meeting;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the West Essex Regional Board of Education suspends Robert's Rules of Order in order to permit the first and second reading and the adoption of the following mandated policies in one meeting:

- #0145 - Board Member Resignation and Removal
- #2415 - Every Student Succeeds Act
- #2415.02 - Title I – Fiscal Responsibilities
- #2415.05 - Student Surveys, Analysis, and/or Evaluations
- #2415.20 - Every Student Succeeds Act Complaints (Policy & Reg.)
- #4125 - Employment of Support Staff Members
- #5330.01 - Administration of Medical Cannabis (Policy & Reg.)
- #6360 - Political Contributions
- #7425 - Lead Testing of Water in Schools
- #8330 - Student Records
- #9713 - Recruitment by Special Interest Groups

**Enclosures 2M – 38M**

3. To approve the First Reading of Policy #1643– Family Leave.

**Enclosures 39M – 71M**

4. To *abolish* Policy #2415.01 – Academic Standards, Academic Assessments, and Accountability.

**[NOTE:** The ESSA eliminated the accountability requirements outlined in this policy, making this policy obsolete.]

5. To *abolish* Policy #2415.03 – Highly Qualified Teachers.

**[NOTE:** The NCLB provisions included in this policy are no longer applicable, making this policy obsolete.]

6. To *abolish* Policy #3431.1 – Family Leave.

**[NOTE:** Policy #3431.1 has been consolidated in new Policy #1643-Family Leave, making this policy obsolete.]

7. To *abolish* Policy #4431.1 – Family Leave.

**[NOTE:** Policy #4431.1 has been consolidated in new Policy #1643-Family Leave, making this policy obsolete.]

West Essex Regional Board of Education  
MISCELLANEOUS – March 1, 2021

8. To *abolish* Policy #7430 – School safety (Policy & Reg.).

[**NOTE:** Policy and Regulation #7430 are no longer required, as the legal requirements have been addressed in existing policies making them obsolete.]

ROLL CALL: Yes: Ms. Egan, Ms. Fahey, Ms. Marcus, Mr. Perrotti,  
Mr. Rubinich, Ms. Sacco-Calderone, Ms. Skelton,  
Mr. Stampone and President Wojtowicz  
No: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None

Ms. Wojtowicz opened the floor to the public for comments on non-agenda items. Hearing none, she closed the floor and resumed the meeting.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Perrotti Seconded by Ms. Fahey at 8:58 PM.

ADJOURN: There being no further business before this Board of Education, BE IT RESOLVED that this public meeting be adjourned and that the Board enters into private session to discuss matters of personnel, negotiations and litigation with the possibility of reconvening to public session to conduct additional business. The matters discussed in executive session will be disclosed to the public when the need to maintain their confidentiality no longer exists.

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President

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Business Administrator/Board Secretary