

**GLEN RIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION
January 25, 2021**

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CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Glen Ridge Board of Education was held on Monday, January 25, 2021 at 5:33 pm through remote means via Zoom.

The meeting was held in accordance with applicable NJ Statutes governing public Board of Education meetings.

Present

Mr. Bonnett

Ms. Boyle-Vellucci

Mr. Campbell (left at 6:12 pm after exec.)

Mr. de Leeuw

Ms. Gottlieb

Ms. Graham

Ms. St. Auburn

Dr. Yaros-Ramos

Ms. Ginsburg

Mr. Phillips

Mrs. Murphy

Ms. Cornell – Board Attorney from Sciarrillo, Cornell, Merlino, McKeever & Osborne, LLC

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

This is a regular meeting of the Glen Ridge Board of Education. Adequate and electronic notice of this change of meeting location and time has been provided in that this Board notified the Glen Ridge Paper and the Star Ledger on January 7, 2021. Said notice was published in the Glen Ridge Paper on January 14, 2021 and Star Ledger on January 12, 2021. The date, time, and location of this meeting were also emailed to all recipients of the annual schedule of the Board's meetings.

Dirk Phillips, Superintendent

Barbara Murphy, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

5:36 pm EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved: Ms. St. Auburn

Seconded: Mr. Bonnett

WHEREAS, a matter to be considered by the Board of Education deals with personnel, negotiations, confidential pupil matters, and/or possible litigation, and

WHEREAS, public disclosure of this matter may be prejudicial to the public good,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this matter be considered in a meeting closed to the public; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the minutes of this meeting be sealed until the matter is resolved.

Adjourn to closed session

Bonnett	Boyle-Vellucci	Campbell	de Leeuw	Gottlieb	Graham	St. Auburn	Yaros-Ramos	Ginsburg
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

Public Session – Mr. de Leeuw motioned to return to public session at 6:12 pm. Ms. Boyle-Vellucci seconded the motion.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

- Ms. Ginsburg reported that the board has received written communications from Yasamine and Mark Viehland on the topic of return to full time in-person instruction and from Tom Johnston noting his appreciation for the district's efforts in keeping the district open.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Ms. Ginsburg reported that there are 34 participants at the meeting, which includes 13 or 14 board members and administrators. She reported that President Biden has released his detailed plan to reopen schools within his first 100 days of office.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Mr. Phillips reported on the Ridgewood Avenue School's Great Kindness Challenge, and Middle School and High School productions. He gave an update on the district's COVID numbers and quarantines, noting the importance of communicating with the school nurses and following strict protocols.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (Agenda Items)

During the course of the board meeting, the Board of Education offers members of the public an opportunity to address issues regarding the operation of the Glen Ridge Public Schools. The Board reminds those individuals who take this opportunity to identify themselves by name and residency and to limit their comments to items listed on the agenda and/or items directly related to the operation of the School District. 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 Board 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.

- Kristin Rodriguez, resident, commented on the return to school and her concerns with the number of students in the cafeteria and lack of stable wi-fi. Mr. Phillips noted that he will be following up on the wi-fi and that the students are socially distancing in the cafeteria.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (First meeting of the month only)

Curriculum Committee
Personnel and Policy Committee
Negotiations Committee
Finance and Facilities Committee
Communications Committee
Alternative Funding Committee

LIAISON REPORTS (First meeting of the month only)

Home & School Associations

- Forest Avenue and Ridgewood Avenue Schools - Ms. Gottlieb reported that the Forest Avenue and Ridgewood Avenue Home and School Associations are working on their Valentine's Day baskets for support staff.

Glen Ridge Association for Special Education (GRASE)
Glen Ridge Black Diversity and Inclusion Association (GRBDIA)
Glen Ridge Educational Foundation (GREF)
Glen Ridge Athletic Association (GRAA)
Glen Ridge Arts Patrons Association (GRAPA)
Gas Lamp Players

Ms. Elisabeth Ginsburg has a standing abstention from any discussion and/or vote regarding the appointment of or payment to the law firm of Sciarrillo, Cornell, Merlino, McKeever & Osborne, LLC.

MINUTES

M-1 Board of Education Minutes

Moved: Mr. de Leeuw Seconded: Mr. Bonnett

Approve the Glen Ridge Board of Education minutes of the following meetings:
January 6, 2021 Exec Session and Regular Meeting

Bonnett	Boyle-Vellucci	Campbell	de Leeuw	Gottlieb	Graham	St. Auburn	Yaros-Ramos	Ginsburg
Aye	Aye	Not Present	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

ADMINISTRATION

A-1 Investigation of Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB)

Moved: Mr. de Leeuw Seconded: Ms. St. Auburn

Be it resolved, that the Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools on the investigation of Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB) Report 20-21 RAS #2 and finds that HIB was not substantiated.

Bonnett	Boyle-Vellucci	Campbell	de Leeuw	Gottlieb	Graham	St. Auburn	Yaros-Ramos	Ginsburg
Aye	Aye	Not Present	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

A-2 Investigation of Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB)

Moved: Mr. de Leeuw Seconded: Ms. St. Auburn

Be it resolved, that the Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools on the investigation of Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB) Report 20-21 HS #3 and finds that HIB was substantiated.

Bonnett	Boyle-Vellucci	Campbell	de Leeuw	Gottlieb	Graham	St. Auburn	Yaros-Ramos	Ginsburg
Aye	Aye	Not Present	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

A-3 Motion to Modify the Flexible Spending Account Plan

Moved: Mr. de Leeuw Seconded: Ms. St. Auburn

WHEREAS, the Employer previously adopted a Code Section 125 plan; a Code Section 105 Health Flexible Spending Account ("Health FSA") and a Code Section 129 Dependent Care Spending Account ("Dependent Care FSA"), collectively referred to as the Cafeteria Plan (the "Plan"); and

WHEREAS, with the most recent COVID stimulus package Section 214 permits employers to amend the Plan to allow the Carryover of all unused funds for both the Health FSA and Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account from 7/1/2019–6/30/2020 plan year to the 07/01/2020–06/30/2021 plan year; and

WHEREAS, the Employer would like to extend the maximum age of eligible dependents from 12 to 13 for the Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account for the 7/1/2020–6/30/2021 plan year for qualifying reimbursements; and

WHEREAS, effective 01/22/2021 the Employer desires to amend the Plan limited to the plan year 07/01/2019–06/30/2020, as set forth in the attached amendment and Summary of Material of Modifications to allow employees to carryover all of their unused Health FSA and Dependent Care funds from the 07/1/2019–06/30/2020 plan year into the 07/1/2020–06/30/2021 plan year consistent with the requirements set forth in this amendment document and increase the maximum age of eligible dependents from 12 to 13 for the Dependent Care FSA for the 07/1/2020–06/30/2021 plan year; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Glen Ridge Board of Education has hereby reviewed the attached amendment and Summary of Material Modifications and does hereby approve the adoption as set forth therein. (Exhibit A-3)

Bonnett	Boyle-Vellucci	Campbell	de Leeuw	Gottlieb	Graham	St. Auburn	Yaros-Ramos	Ginsburg
Aye	Aye	Not Present	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

PERSONNEL

P-1 Appointments

Moved: Ms. St. Auburn Seconded: Ms. Boyle-Vellucci

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of the following:

Name Location	Position Guide/Salary	Effective Date	End Date	Account # PCR#	Rationale
Amy Louie* RAS	Long Term Substitute \$200/per day	2/8/2021	3/10/2021	11-213-100-101-04-00-00	Leave Replacement
Deanna Ruglio District	Leave Replacement Speech Therapist \$325 per day	9/1/2020	6/4/2021	11-000-216-101-10-00-03 71-06-53/avy	Revised

*Pending State and District Approval

Bonnett	Boyle-Vellucci	Campbell	de Leeuw	Gottlieb	Graham	St. Auburn	Yaros-Ramos	Ginsburg
Aye	Aye	Not Present	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

P-2 Leaves

Moved: Ms. St. Auburn Seconded: Ms. Boyle-Vellucci

- Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, move to approve the unpaid leave for employee #6852, effective January 14, 2021 until March 31, 2021. Employee is returning to work on April 1, 2021.
- Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, move to approve the maternity leave/FMLA for Employee #6801, effective March 22, 2021. Employee will use 20 sick days followed by unpaid NJFLA beginning May 20, 2021 until the return date of June 2, 2021.
- Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, move to approve an unpaid leave for Employee #6959 from January 19, 2021 until March 1, 2021.
- Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, move to approve the extension of maternity leave for Employee #6307 until June 1, 2021.

Bonnett	Boyle-Vellucci	Campbell	de Leeuw	Gottlieb	Graham	St. Auburn	Yaros-Ramos	Ginsburg
Aye	Aye	Not Present	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

P-3 Resignations/Retirements

Moved: Ms. St. Auburn Seconded: Ms. Boyle-Vellucci

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept, with regret, the following:

Name	Position	Location	Resignation or Retirement	Effective Date
Mckenzie Cuccia	Aide	FAS	Resignation	1/19/21
Kay Scheren	GO Account	GRHS	Resignation	1/15/21

Bonnett	Boyle-Vellucci	Campbell	de Leeuw	Gottlieb	Graham	St. Auburn	Yaros-Ramos	Ginsburg
Aye	Aye	Not Present	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

P-4 Program Leaders Revised

Moved: Ms. St. Auburn Seconded: Ms. Boyle-Vellucci

Approve the Program Leader for 2020-2021.

Position	Advisor	Guide	Step	Year	FTE	Total
Middle School	Landgraber (Barkouras)	6	3	5	0.5	\$1,389.00

Bonnett	Boyle-Vellucci	Campbell	de Leeuw	Gottlieb	Graham	St. Auburn	Yaros-Ramos	Ginsburg
Aye	Aye	Not Present	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

P-5 Co-Curricular and Athletic Coaches

Moved: Ms. St. Auburn Seconded: Ms. Boyle-Vellucci

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following:

