

GLEN RIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION
February 22, 2021

Virtual Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87513446951?pwd=enFCZnJzZmNYRIU3N0FwWFV3d29Vdz09>

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Glen Ridge Board of Education was held on Monday, February 22, 2021 at 5:35 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 (arrived at 5:47 pm during exec.)
Mr. Campbell (left at 6:21 pm after exec.)
Mr. de Leeuw
Ms. Gottlieb
Ms. Graham
Ms. St. Auburn
Ms. Ginsburg
Mr. Phillips
Mrs. Murphy
Ms. Cornell – Board Attorney from Sciarrillo, Cornell, Merlino, McKeever & Osborne, LLC

Not Present

Dr. Yaros-Ramos

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

5:37 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	Not Present	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Not Present	Aye

Public Session – Ms. Gottlieb motioned to return to public session at 6:21 pm. Ms. St. Auburn seconded the motion.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Ms. Ginsburg reported that the Glen Ridge Board of Education and the Home & School Executive Council have constructed a letter to Governor Murphy asking him to prioritize teachers on the vaccination distribution list. She noted there is still time to send the letter to the Governor's Office.

- Ms. Ginsburg noted that Governor Murphy's budget address is scheduled for tomorrow. We should be receiving our state aid numbers within 48 hours after his address. He has called for an increase of \$578,000 in formula aid to schools and \$25 million more for extraordinary special education aid.
- NJ Department of Education announced they will be seeking a waiver from the federal government for mandated standardized testing for the current school year.
- Governor Murphy announced that New Jersey would be appropriating about \$2.1 billion in federal emergency money for various uses in education. There would be appropriations for academic enrichment, for learning accelerations, assessments for mental health, and grant funding for the learning ecosystem. Each has different application processes, and can be used between now and September 2023.
- Ms. Ginsburg noted there are 33 people in attendance including the board.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Mr. Phillips recognized the custodial and maintenance staff for all the extra hours of clearing snow. He noted that the tentative budget for the next school year will be presented and voted on at the March 15th meeting. He reported that we are planning a parent presentation in March on student well-being and that the High School will be hosting SATs in the spring.
- Mr. Phillips presented an update on the status of the schools. He reviewed the district's and the town's COVID numbers over the last four months. Mr. Phillips reviewed the equity work that is happening throughout the district.
- Mr. DeWitt presented the School Safety Data System Report (Violence and Vandalism and HIB Report) for the period of July 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020. There was an opportunity for questions.

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.

- Michael Hurley, resident, asked if there is a plan to reopen schools fully and are we prepared. Mr. Phillips explained that we do have plans in place to move to the next phase and we continue to meet and discuss with our reopening committee, teachers and administrators. We have to meet certain requirements set by our governing body in order to open. We are doing a great job of following those mandates and providing a safe environment for our students. Many of our neighboring districts have not opened schools at all this year. We are working towards getting everyone back fulltime and that will include following the mandates of our governing bodies.
- Jacob Schwam, resident, commented on the need to fully reopen schools.
- Jennifer Pine, resident, asked if we could consider allowing our hybrid students at the High School attend every day. Mr. Phillips responded that we have been looking for ways to bring more students into the buildings more frequently, and more information from Mr. Lawlor should be coming out relatively soon.
- Yasamine Viehland, resident, asked what a full day means. Mr. Phillips explained at the High School and Ridgewood Avenue School it would mean extending the day to 8:30 to 3:00 pm. At the primary level, we currently have students coming in every day and it is more of a challenge to extend their hours. We still have the am and pm cohorts, and with students attending every day we will be looking to extend their hours but it will not be a traditional 8:30 to 3:00 pm schedule as we still need to follow the current requirements of social distancing.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (First meeting of the month only)

Curriculum Committee

- Mr. de Leeuw reported that the committee met at the end of January. We were updated on new programs at the high school, the curriculum reviews going on in related arts and world language, and the equity work that is ongoing.

Personnel and Policy Committee

- Ms. St. Auburn reported that we will meet next week to discuss ongoing issues with leave replacements, upcoming policies and staffing concerns for next year.

Negotiations Committee

- Mr. de Leeuw reported that we are at the beginning of negotiation with the Administrators group and waiting on our state aid numbers.

Finance and Facilities Committee

- Ms. Ginsburg noted the finance committee is planning to meet shortly after the state aid numbers are released.

Communications Committee

Alternative Funding Committee

LIAISON REPORTS (First meeting of the month only)

Home & School Associations

- Ms. Gottlieb reported on the recent Forest and Ridgewood Avenue Home and School Association meetings.
- Ms. Ginsburg reported on the recent High School Home and School Association meeting.

Glen Ridge Association for Special Education (GRASE)

- Ms. Gottlieb reported that there is a meeting scheduled for next Wednesday. At the last meeting they offered a big thank you to the district for launching the Orton Gillingham program, discussion of a special education audit, and a question about extending the school day for students with IEPs.

Glen Ridge Black Diversity and Inclusion Association (GRBDIA)

Glen Ridge Educational Foundation (GREF)

- Ms. St. Auburn reported that the GREF met on February 9th and will meet again on March 9th.

Glen Ridge Athletic Association (GRAA)

- Mr. Bonnett reported that softball and baseball registration recently opened.

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: Ms. St. Auburn

Approve the Glen Ridge Board of Education minutes of the following meetings:

January 25, 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	Not Present	Aye

ADMINISTRATION

A-1 Authorization to Advertise for Bids

Moved: Mr. de Leeuw Seconded: Mr. Bonnett

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, move to authorize the Business Administrator to advertise for bids for Central School Gutter Replacements. Time and date of advertisement and receipt of bids to be determined by the Business Administrator.

Bonnett	Boyle-Vellucci	Campbell	de Leeuw	Gottlieb	Graham	St. Auburn	Yaros-Ramos	Ginsburg
Aye	Aye	Not Present	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Not Present	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	Leave Replacement Teacher \$200/per day	2/5/2021	6/30/21	11-213-100-101-04-00-00	REVISED
Alex Kramer RAS	Leave Replacement Teacher \$300 per day	8/20/20	6/30/21	11-120-100-101-00-00-04 71-06-00/awf	REVISED
Abigail Lapone LAS	Leave Replacement Teacher \$275 per day	8/26/20	6/30/21	11-120-100-101-00-00-03 71-06-00/awn	REVISED
Anthony Elia RAS	Leave Replacement Teacher \$300 per day	8/26/2020	6/30/21	11-120-100-101-00-00-04 71-06-00/awm	REVISED
Nicole Kapushy LAS	Permanent Substitute \$100 per day	2/22/21	6/30/21	11-120-100-101-01-01-00	Open Position
Jessica Ortega GRHS	Leave Replacement School Counselor \$300 per day	11/23/2020	3/12/21	11-000-218-104-00-00-05	REVISED
Myles Platt GRHS	Technology Worker \$12.00 per hour NTE 29 hours per week	11/30/2020	6/30/21	11-000-222-177-27-01-00	REVISED
Bertha Valladares* Central School	Leave Replacement Pre-K \$275.00 per day	3/1/21	6/30/21	11-105-100-101-00-00-00	Leave Replacement

*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	Not Present	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 #6410, effective February 17, 2021 until February 26, 2021. Employee is returning to work on March 1, 2021.
- Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, move to approve revise the leave for employee #5289, effective January 31, 2021 until June 30, 2021. Employee is returning to work on August 27, 2021.

Bonnett	Boyle-Vellucci	Campbell	de Leeuw	Gottlieb	Graham	St. Auburn	Yaros-Ramos	Ginsburg
Aye	Aye	Not Present	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Not Present	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
Kay Scheren	Secretary	GRHS	Revised Retirement	5/31/21
Nelson Mendez	Teacher	GRHS	RESCIND RETIREMENT	1/31/21

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

P-4 Co-Curricular and Athletic Coaches

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

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following:

Name	Position	Guide	Step	Year	Amount
Emily Ramos	GLI Advisor REVISED	7	4	7	\$2,075.00
Anthony Sicoli	Assistant Wrestling Coach	3	1	1	\$5,533.00

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

P-5 Staff Presenters

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

Approve the following staff for presenting at the following events on February 8,2021:

Name	School	Event	Rate
Tim Aumack	RAS	Workshop	\$50
Jennifer Cordasco	RAS	Workshop	\$50
Allison Meeker	RAS	Workshop	\$50
John Sarcone	RAS	Workshop	\$50
Christine Sullo	RAS	Workshop	\$50

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

P-6 Student Teachers

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

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following student teachers for the 2020-2021 school year:

Name	Dates	Building/Grade	Cooperating Teacher	College
Tara Rutkowski	2/1/21	RAS	Paula Ely	MSU

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

P-7 Postponed Clubs and Sports

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

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following sports and clubs will be postponed for the 2020-2021 school year:

Weightlifting	Winter Cheerleading	Cupcakes for Cancer	Jazz Band (RAS)
Robotics Club	Talent Show	Science Honor Society	Science League
Bowling	Homework Club		

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

P-8 Volunteer

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

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Chris Troyano as a volunteer coach for the 2020-2021 school year.

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

P-9 Rescind Appointment

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

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, rescind the appointment of the following

Middle School Assistant Drama Director	Jessica Glover	GRHS	\$2,000.00
Middle School Choreographer	Heather Crawford	GRHS	\$1,500.00

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

CURRICULUM

C-1 Field Trips

Moved: Mr. de Leeuw Seconded: Mr. Bonnett

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following field trip:

- Linden and Forest Avenue 2nd grade students to attend the Virtual Journeys into American Indian Territory, on May 17,18, 20 & 21 2021, as per the attached. (exhibit C-1.a)

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

BUSINESS

Ms. Ginsburg thanked the Parke Sickler Family Trust for their generous donation for the Glen Ridge High School Hall of Fame.

B-1 Financial Reports

Moved: Ms. Graham Seconded: Mr. Bonnett

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, move to approve the following financial reports as recommended by the Finance Committee:

- Approve the Bills and Claims as per attached list, in the amount of **\$558,574.12** and further move that the following bills drawn on the current account in the total amount of **\$3,551,855.56** for Payroll, and materials received and/or services rendered, having been duly audited by the Business Administrator and submitted to the Board, be ratified by the Board.
- Approve transfers for the month of **January 2021** as presented and on file in the Board Office. (Exhibit B-1.b)
- Approve reports of the Secretary and Treasurer for the period ending **January 31, 2021**. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13, and 6:20-2A.10 (d) and (e), and as certified by the Board Secretary, the Board certifies that no budgetary line account has been over expended or has obligations or payments which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the Board of Education, and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. (Exhibit B-1.c)
- Approval of the Open Purchase Order Report, as per attached, in the amount of **\$166,147.24** for school year 2020-2021.
- Student activity account bills list as follows:

<u>School</u>	<u>January 2021</u>
Glen Ridge High School	\$3,677.00
Glen Ridge High School Athletics	\$982.00
Ridgewood Avenue School	\$416.50
Forest Avenue School	\$24.80
Linden Avenue School	\$0

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

B-2 Donations

Moved: Ms. Graham Seconded: Mr. Bonnett

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept, with thanks, the following generous donations:

Donor	Item(s)	Value	Installation Included?	Exhibit
a. Parke Sickler Family Trust	Monetary donation for the Glen Ridge High School Athletic Hall of Fame	\$1,000	n/a	B-2.a

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

B-3 Interlocal Service and Hold Harmless Agreement

Moved: Ms. Graham Seconded: Mr. Bonnett

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, move to approve the interlocal service and hold harmless agreement between the Borough of Caldwell and the Glen Ridge School District for the Glen Ridge Swim Team to utilize the indoor swimming pool facility at the Caldwell Community Center for team practices and virtual swim meets at a cost of \$9,200 for the 2021 NJSIAA interscholastic swim season as per the agreement. (Exhibit B-3)

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

B-4 Change Order

Moved: Ms. Graham Seconded: Mr. Bonnett

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, move to approve Change Order #2 from VMG Group to provide and install new urethane joint caulking at cast stone coping on the Ridgewood Ave School Auditorium Roof at a cost of \$3,680.16.

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

B-5 Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Waiver

Moved: Ms. Graham Seconded: Mr. Bonnett

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, move to approve the submission of a waiver for the requirement to maximize Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) participation for the 2021-2022 school year.

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

B-6 Bid Award of the Partial Roof Replacement at Ridgewood Avenue School

Moved: Ms. Graham Seconded: Mr. Bonnett

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, move to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Glen Board of Education advertised for bids for the Partial Roof Replacement at the Ridgewood Avenue Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, on February 17, 2021 the Board received the following bids for the Project:

Bidders	Base Bid	Alt #1
Duga Construction, LLC	\$234,000	\$75,000
Galia Construction, LLC	\$215,000	\$48,400
Integrity Roofing, Inc.	\$199,340	\$58,000
Mak Group, LLC	\$397,758	\$97,800
Northeast Roof Maintenance	\$203,000	\$56,000
Safeway Contracting	\$211,000	\$49,000
VMG Group	\$189,000	\$49,000

WHEREAS, the lowest responsible bid for this Project was submitted by VMG Group with a base bid in the amount of \$189,000 and an Alternate #1 for additional section of roof as indicated in the drawings in the amount of \$49,000;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby awards the contract for the Partial Roof Replacement to VMG Group for the base bid only, in a total contract amount of \$189,000;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board President and Board Secretary are hereby authorized to execute such agreement and any other documents necessary to effectuate the terms of this resolution.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Jacob Schwam, resident, asked about reopening full time for the primary level, and asked how private schools and daycares are able to be open. Mr. Phillips explained that the High School and Ridgewood Avenue School are under a different model of instruction where those students come in every other day, where at the primary schools the students come in every day for a shorter time period. He explained that we cannot bring in all students every day for a full day under the current regulations. He explained that many of the day care centers were operating outside in the past, and the private schools may have lower numbers. Each building faces their own unique challenges in following the safety protocols. Ms. Cornell noted that we are not in a position to accept waivers for having students come in as we are still bound by the criteria that is mandated by the state and the CDC to operate in a safe manner.
- Bernice Clark, resident, asked if the equity audit would be happening this year. Mr. Phillips responded that we plan on moving forward with it this year.

ADJOURNMENT

Motioned to adjourn by Mr. de Leeuw. Ms. Gottlieb seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 pm.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Murphy, Board Secretary