

**FLEMINGTON-RARITAN REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**April 11, 2024**  
**MINUTES**

The In-Person Regular Meeting of the Flemington-Raritan Regional Board of Education was called to order in conformance with the “Sunshine Law” by the Board President at 6:00 p.m.

In accordance with the State's Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting was provided by sending a notice of the time, date, location and, to the extent known, the agenda of this meeting on January 11, 2024 to the Hunterdon County Democrat and The Courier-News. Copies of the notice also have been placed in the Board Office and in each of the district schools, posted on the District website and filed with Flemington Borough Clerk and the Raritan Township Clerk.

Ms. Dawson took Roll Call

Members Present

Jaclyn Arce, arrived at 6:04 p.m.  
William Bentley, arrived at 6:02 p.m.  
Ryan Birkenstock  
Jeffrey Cain  
Lilian Colpas  
Gina Criscitiello  
Tiffany Jarrett  
Michelle Hurley

Members Absent

Laurie Markowski

Attorney Present

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On the motion of Mr. Birkenstock, seconded by Mr. Cain, the Board adopted the following resolution to meet in Executive Session at 6:02 p.m. viva voce.

**SUNSHINE RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act authorizes Boards of Education to meet in executive session under certain circumstances;

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act requires the Board to adopt a resolution at a public meeting to go into private session;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Flemington-Raritan School District Board of Education that it is necessary to meet in executive session to discuss certain items involving:

- ✓ Matters of personal confidentiality rights, including but not limited to, staff and/or student discipline matters, and specifically: **HIB**
- Matters in which the release of information would impair the right to receive government funds, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_
- Matters which, if publicly disclosed, would constitute an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_
- Matters concerning negotiations, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_
- Matters involving the purchase of real property and/or the investment of public funds, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_
- Matters involving the real tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ Matters involving anticipated or pending litigation, including matters of attorney-client privilege, and specifically: **Litigation**
- Matters involving personnel issues, including but not limited to, the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of performance, promotion, or discipline of any public officer or employee, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_
- Matters involving quasi-judicial deliberations, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any discussion held by the Board which need not remain confidential will be made public as soon as feasible. The minutes of the executive session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board ~~will~~/will not return to open session to conduct business at the conclusion of the executive session.

The Board returned to public session at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Cain read the District Mission Statement.

As a Community of One, WE:

Foster social, emotional, and academic growth within a connected learning community  
Respect, honor, and embrace diverse family and community values by building collaborative partnerships  
Strengthen opportunities that nurture creative and critical thinkers  
Develop and inspire personal excellence.

**Every Student - Every Day - Every Opportunity**

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. McGann welcomed Principal, Mrs. Jessica Braynor and Vice Principal, Mrs. Lindsay Shirvanian to share some of the accomplishments of Robert Hunter Elementary School. Mrs. Braynor and Mrs. Shirvanian recognized Educator of the Year, Rebecca Carr; Educational Professional of the Year, Veronica Fetzter; Jenn Smits, Anton Banko Science Education Award recipient and the Dreams Team Teacher Champions. They highlighted programs such as Project Success, Vamos! Kindergarten, student service projects and outdoor classroom activities as well as recognition initiatives, Paws-itive Office Referrals and Robbie's Recognition. Photos and videos were shared of fun events such as the in school snow day, fort day and the domino chain of 326 boxes of cereal that were collected to be donated to the food pantry. Finally, the PTO highlighted fundraising events and the ways in which they support the school through grants and other opportunities. The full presentation can be found on the District website.

Dr. McGann and Board Members thanked Robert Hunter for their wonderful presentation.

Dr. McGann reported for enrollment numbers that the District has nearly 3,250 students enrolled in preschool to 8th grade, over 675 staff members and included a breakdown of subgroups as follows: 21% of students have a disability, 20% are economically disadvantaged and nearly 8.5% speak a second language. She provided clarification on preschool expansion aid funding and advised that a letter will be forthcoming from her office regarding preschool transportation. Dr. McGann provided an update on the budget, she recognized the Board for their work with speaking to legislators about fair and equitable State funding and noted that work continues on closing the budget gap with a focus on maintaining small class sizes, essential building upkeep and Class III officers, all with the smallest impact to students. To close the budget gap, Dr. McGann shared that the District has used attrition whenever possible and for staff members affected by budget cuts, she is networking with neighboring districts in an effort to help them find new jobs.

## **BOARD PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Ms. Hurley advised that Board Professional Development originally scheduled for this evening will be rescheduled to April 25, 2024.

Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting - March 27, 2024

Ms. Hurley asked for any corrections, additions or deletions to the minutes. Hearing none, Ms. Hurley announced that the meeting minutes were approved as written.

## CITIZENS ADDRESS THE BOARD

Citizens Address the Board - The public is invited to respectfully share their concerns, comments, and suggestions according to the Board's policy and by-laws. Please be aware that this portion is your opportunity to comment on items of concern regarding the agenda only. The second public comment is for comment on any issue. Each speaker will have 3 minutes, and the total session will be 30 minutes. The public is requested to sign the register and to state their name, municipality of residence, and group affiliation, if applicable. While all comments will be considered, Board Members will not respond to speakers at this time.

Ms. Hurley set the session to 30 minutes with 3 minutes for each person.

No Comment.

### THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS FOR APPROVAL:

#### PERSONNEL

Gina Criscitiello, Chairperson, Next Meeting – April 15, 2024

**Personnel Item(s) 1-6, were approved under one motion made by Ms. Hurley, seconded by Ms. Criscitiello.**

<b>Aye:</b> <b>Ms. Arce</b> <b>Dr. Bentley</b> <b>Mr. Birkenstock</b> <b>Mr. Cain</b>	<b>Ms. Colpas</b> <b>Ms. Criscitiello</b> <b>Ms. Jarrett</b> <b>Ms. Hurley</b>	<b>Nay:     0</b>  <b>Abstain: 0</b>
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#### **Certified Staff – Appointments, Resignations & Leaves of Absence**

1. Approval was given to accept the resignation of the following staff member(s) for the 2023-2024 school year as follows:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Position	Purpose	Effective Date
1.	Lorring	Russell	RFIS	Grade 5 Math/Science	Resignation	June 30, 2024
2.	Sobieski	Michael	BS	Grade 2	Resignation	June 30, 2024
3.	Wrabel	Tyler	BS	Health and Physical Education	Resignation	June 30, 2024

2. Approval was given for district staff member(s) to take a leave of absence or amend their leave during the 2023-2024 school year.

#### **Non-Certified Staff – Appointments, Resignations & Leaves of Absence**

3. Approval was given to accept the resignation of the following staff member(s) for the 2023-2024 school year as follows:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Position	Purpose	Effective Date
1.	Adams	Lisa	FAD	Cafeteria Aide	Resignation	March 25, 2024

#### **All Staff – Additional Compensation**

4. Approval was given to confirm the employment of the following staff member(s) for extra compensation during the 2023-2024 school year as follows:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Purpose	Max # of Hours	Rate
1.	Creighton	Kimberly	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/22/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
2.	Miller	Jennifer	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/22/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
3.	Miller	Robert	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/22/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
4.	Pacholick	Mindy	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/22/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
5.	Pinola	Megan	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/22/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
6.	Sladky	Samantha	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/22/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr

7.	Soltis	Amy	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/22/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
8.	Creighton	Kimberly	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/25/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
9.	Decker	Joshua	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/25/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
10.	Gardner	Elizabeth	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/25/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
11.	Gilmurray	Mindi	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/25/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
12.	Krukowski	Megan	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/25/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
13.	Pinola	Megan	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/25/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
14.	Piro	Catherine	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/25/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
15.	Pirog	Michelle	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/25/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
16.	Sladky	Samantha	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/25/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
17.	Decker	Joshua	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/26/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
18.	Gilmurray	Mindi	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/26/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
19.	Graham	Sean	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/26/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
20.	Hand	Gina	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/26/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
21.	Krukowski	Megan	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/26/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
22.	McAnlis	Melissa	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/26/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
23.	Miller	Jennifer	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/26/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
24.	Miller	Robert	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/26/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
25.	Obregon	Maria	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/26/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
26.	Roll	Jeanne	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/26/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
27.	Sladky	Samantha	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/26/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
28.	Piro	Catherine	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/27/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
29.	Creighton	Kimberly	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/28/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
30.	Kircher	Jennifer	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/28/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
31.	Krukowski	Megan	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/28/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
32.	Pinola	Megan	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/28/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
33.	Soltis	Amy	JPC	Class Coverage - 3/28/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
34.	Baills	Colette	JPC	Class Coverage - 4/5/24	30 minutes	\$36.00/hr
35.	Buttgereit	Erin	JPC	Class Coverage - 4/5/24	30 minutes	\$36.00/hr
36.	Bobrin	Carly	JPC	Class Coverage - 4/5/24	30 minutes	\$36.00/hr
37.	Bubeer	Julie	JPC	Class Coverage - 4/5/24	30 minutes	\$36.00/hr
38.	Creighton	Kimberly	JPC	Class Coverage - 4/5/24	30 minutes	\$36.00/hr
39.	Ellenberg	Kelley	JPC	Class Coverage - 4/5/24	30 minutes	\$36.00/hr
40.	Genito	Michelle	JPC	Class Coverage - 4/5/24	30 minutes	\$36.00/hr
41.	Handren	Marisa	JPC	Class Coverage - 4/5/24	30 minutes	\$36.00/hr
42.	Hlavsa-Suk	Dawn	JPC	Class Coverage - 4/5/24	30 minutes	\$36.00/hr
43.	Hoffmann	Joanne	JPC	Class Coverage - 4/5/24	30 minutes	\$36.00/hr
44.	Horowitz	Steven	JPC	Class Coverage - 4/5/24	30 minutes	\$36.00/hr
45.	Membreno	Ada	JPC	Class Coverage - 4/5/24	30 minutes	\$36.00/hr
46.	Pacholick	Mindy	JPC	Class Coverage - 4/5/24	30 minutes	\$36.00/hr
47.	Pagano	Flor	JPC	Class Coverage - 4/5/24	30 minutes	\$36.00/hr
48.	Ruppel	Ann	JPC	Class Coverage - 4/5/24	30 minutes	\$36.00/hr
49.	Soltis	Amy	JPC	Class Coverage - 4/5/24	30 minutes	\$36.00/hr
50.	Vita	Matt	JPC	Class Coverage - 4/5/24	30 minutes	\$36.00/hr
51.	Wagner	Lauren	JPC	Class Coverage - 4/5/24	30 minutes	\$36.00/hr
52.	Lopez	Ashley	RFIS	Class coverage - 2/27/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
53.	Devincenzo	Marissa	RFIS	Class coverage - 3/18/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr.
54.	Kermizian	Leigh	RFIS	Class coverage - 3/19/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
55.	Miller	Jeffrey	RFIS	Class coverage - 3/19/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
56.	Baden	Melissa	RFIS	Class coverage - 3/20/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
57.	Vallecilla	Amelia	RFIS	Class coverage - 3/20/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
58.	Azofeifa	Hannah	RFIS	Class coverage - 3/21/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr
59.	Culcasi	Lindsey	RFIS	Class coverage - 3/21/24	40 minutes	\$36.00/hr

**Substitutes**

5. Approval was given to confirm the employment of the following applicant(s) as substitute(s) pending fingerprints, background check, and health exam during the 2023-2024 school year as follows:

Item	Last Name	First Name
1.	Farber	Rachel
2.	Harris	Kathleen
3.	Smith	Cynthia

6. Approval was given for Rachel Shein, Kindergarten Teacher at Barley Sheaf Elementary School, to conduct survey research for a Special Education graduate program at Rider University.

**INSTRUCTION AND PROGRAM**

Lilian Colpas, Chairperson, Next Meeting – May 13, 2024

No Items.

**OPERATIONS**

Michelle Hurley, Chairperson, Next Meeting – April 17, 2024

No Items.

**TRANSPORTATION**

Ryan Birkenstock, Chairperson, Next Meeting – April 17, 2024

No Items.

**POLICY**

Jaclyn Arce, Chairperson, Next Meeting – April 16, 2024

**Policy Item 1 was approved under one motion made by Ms. Hurley, seconded by Ms. Arce.**

<b>Aye:</b>	<b>Ms. Arce</b>	<b>Ms. Colpas</b>	<b>Nay: 0</b>	<b>Abstain: 0</b>
	<b>Dr. Bentley</b>	<b>Ms. Criscitiello</b>		
	<b>Mr. Birkenstock</b>	<b>Ms. Jarrett</b>		
	<b>Mr. Cain</b>	<b>Ms. Hurley</b>		

1. Approval was given to present the following new policy for a 2nd reading and adoption:

1. P 2421 - Career and Technical Education

**MISCELLANEOUS (INFORMATION-ACTION)**

Ms. Hurley noted a correction to information item 1, Barley Sheaf to be amended to read Frances A. Desmares.

**Information**

1. Suspensions for the month of March 2023:

<b>School</b>	<b>Infraction</b>	<b>Duration</b>
JPC	Threatening behavior	1 Day
JPC	Inappropriate physical contact	2 Days
JPC	Inappropriate language on the bus	1 Day
JPC	Inappropriate physical contact	1 Day
JPC	Inappropriate physical contact	1 Day
JPC	Inappropriate physical contact	1 Day
JPC	Insubordination	1 Day
JPC	Unsafe behavior in a classroom	1 Day
FAD	Disrespectful to staff	1 Day
RFIS	Possession of a weapon	1 Day
RFIS	Insubordination and theft	2 Days
RFIS	Inappropriate physical contact with another student	2 Days
RFIS	Inappropriate physical contact with another student	1 Day

2. Drill(s) to date for the 2023-2024 School Year:

<b>Month</b>	<b>Fire Drills</b>					
	<b>BS</b>	<b>CH</b>	<b>FAD</b>	<b>RH</b>	<b>RFIS</b>	<b>JPC</b>
September	9/14	9/15	9/14	9/12	9/14	9/8
October	10/5	10/23	10/13	10/6	10/19	10/19
November	11/3	11/13	11/6	11/16	11/15	11/14
December	12/13	12/22	12/11	12/12	12/4	12/4
January	1/11	1/12	1/8	1/29	1/4	1/11
February	2/7	2/8	2/8	2/9	2/12	2/8
March	3/13	3/27	3/8	3/8	3/20	3/12
<b>Month</b>	<b>Security Drills</b>					
	<b>BS</b>	<b>CH</b>	<b>FAD</b>	<b>RH</b>	<b>RFIS</b>	<b>JPC</b>
September	9/20	9/23	9/20	9/20	9/11	9/13
October	10/19	10/26	10/19	10/12	10/11	10/26
November	11/13	11/20	11/14	11/17	11/3	11/20
December	12/15	12/19	12/15	12/6	12/14	12/14
January	1/26	1/26	1/24	1/26	1/11	1/29
February	2/14	2/22	2/15	2/15	2/7	2/27
March	3/12	3/21	3/26	3/14	3/7	3/26

3. Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Investigation(s) for the 2023-2024 school year:

<b>School</b>	<b>Date of Incident</b>	<b>Report #</b>	<b>HIB (Y/N)</b>	<b>Additional Action Taken</b>
BS	February 1-March 17, 2024	BS#2	No	Remedial actions outlined in report.
BS	February 1-March 17, 2024	BS#3	No	Remedial actions outlined in report.
BS	February 1-March 17, 2024	BS#4	No	Remedial actions outlined in report.
BS	February 1-March 17, 2024	BS#5	No	Remedial actions outlined in report.

**Action Items**

None.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Ms. Arce reported that two correspondence were received regarding the budget and transportation.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**CITIZENS ADDRESS THE BOARD**

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Ms. Hurley set the session to 30 minutes with 3 minutes for each person.

No comment.

On the motion of Dr. Bentley, seconded by Mr. Birkenstock the meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m. viva voce.

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Tanya Dawson  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary