

**CRESSKILL BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Regular Meeting, November 23, 2020**  
Merritt Memorial School Gymnasium, 7:00 PM

The Regular Meeting of the Cresskill Board of Education was held on Monday November 23, 2020 at Merritt Memorial School Gymnasium. The meeting was called to order by Vice President Moldt at 7:00 p.m.

**Vice President Moldt led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.**

Vice President Moldt offered a moment of silence for President Denise Villani, who had a recent death in the family.

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Trustee Sally Cummings  
Trustee Michael DePalo  
Trustee Eugene Gorfin  
Trustee Dionna Griffin  
Trustee Mary Klein  
Vice President Stephen Moldt

**ABSENT:** Trustee Amy Cusick  
Trustee Raffi Odabashian  
President Denise Villani

**ALSO PRESENT:** Michael Burke, Superintendent of Schools  
Dawn Delasandro, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

**READING OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETING 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 any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with provisions of the act, The Cresskill Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting taking place at Merritt Memorial School Gymnasium be published by having date, time and place thereof posted in the Cresskill Board of Education office, sent to the Cresskill Library and Cresskill Borough Hall.”*

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**December 14** - CBOE Regular Meeting, CMS/CHS Auditorium, 7:00 PM

**December 23 - January 1, 2021** - Winter Recess, School Closed

**January 4** - CBOE Reorganization Meeting and CBOE Regular Meeting, CMS/CHS Auditorium, 7:00 PM

**January 18** - Martin Luther King Day, Professional Development Day for Staff Only

**CONSENT AGENDA**

A. Motion to Introduce Consent Agenda

On a motion by Trustee Klein, seconded by Trustee Gorfin and carried, the Board introduced the Consent Agenda.

- Minutes: 1
- Personnel: 1 THROUGH 8
- Educational Planning: 1 THROUGH 5
- Finance: 1 THROUGH 12
- Policy: 1 THROUGH 1

B. Discussion - any item on Consent Agenda - Board of Education Only

Trustee Klein commented on the Parent Speaker Series noting the next speaker will be on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, by Zoom, "Tired of All the Yelling". Trustee Klein also asked about the CARES receipt of funds; Ms. Delasandro explained this money was from the town's bucket of federal funds. Trustee Cummings asked about Orton Gillingham, which Mr. Burke explained. Trustee Gorfin asked about the stipends. Mr. Burke stated they were replacements and assumed the seasons would occur. Trustee Moldt asked about the training for Mr. Schillaci. Trustee Klein asked about the School Security Grant. Trustee Gorfin inquired regarding Finance #11, to which Mr. Burke replied that St. Therese had accepted. Trustee Klein asked about Policy and Trustee Cummings asked how long records were kept. Trustee Moldt asked if it was the last payment to Salazar. Ms. Delasandro replied no, they are working on the punch list, and the next payment should be the final payment. Trustee Gorfin asked if St. Therese provided the requested items. Mr. Burke said he received floorplans and AHERA information. Trustee Klein asked about HIB Assessments, to which Mr. Burke replied that Cresskill scores are favorable in comparison to other districts. Trustee Moldt asked Mr. Burke to review the security plan.

C. Open floor to public comment on Consent Agenda only

Citizens may address the Board of Education on any item listed on the agenda. Citizens will give their name and address when recognized to speak. A time limit of three minutes per person and a total of 30 minutes for all communications are allowed. Large groups are urged to select someone to represent them.

Barbara Costa asked who would be using the LLI program to which Mr. Burke replied each classroom.

D. Close public participation

E. ROLL CALL VOTE - CONSENT AGENDA

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

YES NO ABSTAIN ABSENT

Trustee Cummings	✓			
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Trustee Cusick				✓
Trustee DePalo	✓			
Trustee Gorfin	✓			
Trustee Griffin	✓			
Trustee Klein	✓			
Vice President Moldt	✓			
Trustee Odabashian				✓
President Villani				✓

**BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

There was no Board President’s report tonight.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Mr. Burke stated that there are no plans to pre-emptively close school at this time. He believes the schools are safe and he discussed the new yellow boxes on the website to report positive cases. He appreciates everyone’s flexibility and support. As a reminder, if you travel out of state you need to quarantine. Once we get through the winter, there is a light at the end of the tunnel! Athletic events were able to take place. The diversity committee meeting was very powerful and good progress was made.

**PUBLIC COMMENT - ANY SUBJECT**

Citizens may address the Board of Education on any item not listed on the agenda. Citizens will give their names and addresses when recognized to speak. A time limit of three minutes per person and a total of 30 minutes for all communications are allowed. Large groups are urged to select someone to represent them.

Mr. Spelbrink, 56 south St. – stated that communication has improved and the town has started releasing their information as well. He thanked the school for central reporting. He asked how far back does contact tracing go? Mr. Burke replied that each situation is unique, but generally 72 hours. He asked about co-curricular activities and winter sports. Mr. Burke replied that basketball would start January 11, 2021 and that wrestling was pushed backed to March. He asked about attendance at the MS/HS, to which Mr. Burke replied that attendance has been sparse, some days close to 34%.

**TRUSTEE COMMENT**

Trustee Gorfin felt that attendance was down at the MS/HS because the first thing students are told is to open their computer so why bother going into school. Trustee Gorfin asked when the screening tool would be virtual. Mr. Burke replied that Rschools would be used for extra-curricular activities. Genesis

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will start in January for regular attendance. Trustee Gorfin also asked about the last question on the form regarding travel, what happens if a family answers yes? Mr. Burke replied that they need to quarantine for 14 days and will pull the child out of school. Trustee Gorfin asked about the canopy roof. Ms. Delasandro replied that a pre-construction meeting was being scheduled.

**CLOSED SESSION**

On the motion of Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Klein, and approved by unanimous voice vote, the meeting was adjourned to Closed Session at 7:38 p.m. to discuss Personnel matters.

The Cresskill Board of Education is adjourning to Closed Session. The session may include a discussion of negotiations, contractual matters, litigation and personnel. Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, the Cresskill Board of Education is required to notify the public when the minutes of the closed session will be available. When the need for confidentiality no longer exists, the minutes will be available to the public.

A motion to end Closed Session and resume a Public Session was made by Trustee Moldt, seconded by Trustee Griffin and approved by unanimous voice vote at 8:17pm.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Hearing no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 8:17 p.m. on the motion of Trustee Griffin, seconded by Trustee Moldt, and approved by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

*Dawn Delasandro*

Dawn Delasandro  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

**CRESSKILL BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

REGULAR MEETING - November 23, 2020

**MINUTES**

1. Approval - October 12, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes  
October 26, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes

**PERSONNEL**

1. Approval - Amend the maternity related disability leave of absence of Amanda McCarthy, Science teacher, Cresskill High School, to continue with virtual education effective 09/01/20 and postpone approved 12 week paid leave of absence to begin on 01/04/21 through 03/26/21
2. Approval - Resignation of John Mullins, Assistant Wrestling Coach, CHS, effective November 11, 2020
3. Approval - Appointment of Joseph Parsons, Assistant Wrestling Coach, CHS, year 1, step 1, \$4,169, pending issuance of substitute certificate and pre-employment verification, for the 2020-2021 school year. If the season is shortened as a result of a state-directed closing, the stipends will be prorated
4. Approval - Appointment of Robert Mangini, JV Boys Basketball Coach, CHS, year 1, step 2 \$4,621, pending criminal history clearance, for the 2020-2021 school year. If the season is shortened as a result of a state-directed closing, the stipend will be prorated
5. Approval - Appointment of John Lisella, Freshman Basketball Coach, CHS, year 1, step 2, \$4,541, pending criminal history clearance and pre-employment verification, for the 2020-2021 school year. If the season is shortened as a result of a state-directed closing, the stipend will be prorated
6. Approval - Appointment of Joseph Voza, Assistant Spring Track Coach, CHS, year 1, step 1, \$4,357, pending criminal history clearance and pre-employment verification, for the 2020-2021 school year. If the season is shortened as a result of a state-directed closing, the stipend will be prorated
7. Approval - Appointment of Jeffrey Domville, Indoor Track Coach, CHS, year 1, step 1, \$2,081, for the 2020-2021 school year. If the season is shortened as a result of a state-directed closing, the stipend will be prorated
8. Approval - Revised estimated maternity leave request of Lisa Ruane, School Social Worker, District, effective 03/13/2020, paid using available sick and personal days until the date of birth, then placed on unpaid leave of absence in accordance with NJFLA and FMLA for ten (10) weeks following the birth of child, for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year, returning the first day of school in September 2021

**EDUCATIONAL PLANNING**

1. Approval - Conferences/Workshops/Travel

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2. Approval - Professional Development with Heinnemann for Fountas & Pinnell Level Literacy Intervention, 6 days for up to 30 teachers, dates TBD, in the amount of \$16,800 utilizing Coordinated Early Intervention Services funds of the IDEA federal grant
3. Approval - School Safety and Security Plan Annual Review Statement of Assurance for the 2020-2021 school year
4. Approval - Annual Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Grade Self-Assessment for the 2019-2020 school year
5. Approval - Orton Gillingham Service, Marie Rosato, 3x/week, 30 sessions, \$75/session, totaling \$2,250 effective 11/11/2020 through 06/20/2021

**FINANCE**

1. Approval - Bills for November 2020
2. Approval - Final Bill List for October 2020
3. Approval - Board Secretary's Report for October 2020
4. Approval - Monthly Reconciliation for October 2020
5. Approval - Transfer Report for October 2020
6. Approval - Payment of Bills for December 2020
7. Approval - Joint transportation agreement between New Milford Board of Education for the purpose of transportation students in accordance with Chapter 53, P.L. 1997 for 2020-2021
8. Approval - Payment Request #4 from Salazar & Associates, \$38,674.50
9. Approval - Accept Bergen County CARES School Allocation of \$29,572.20
10. Approval - 2020-2021 Budget Calendar
11. Approval - Letter of Intent with St. Therese of Lisieux
12. Approval - Submission of the School Security Grant Application

**POLICY**

1. Approval - Approval of the following Policy and Regulation:  
8330 - Student Records (Revised)

**MINUTES:**

1. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the minutes of:  
October 12, 2020 - Regular Meeting Minutes

October 26, 2020 - Regular Meeting Minutes

**PERSONNEL:**

1. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, amend the maternity related disability leave of absence of **Amanda McCarthy**, Science teacher, Cresskill High School, to continue with virtual education effective September 1, 2020 and postpone approved 12 week paid leave of absence to begin on January 4, 2021 through March 26, 2021.
2. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the resignation of **John Mullins**, Assistant Wrestling Coach, Cresskill High School, effective November 11, 2020.
3. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of **Joseph Parsons**, Assistant Wrestling Coach, Cresskill High School, year 1, step 1, \$4,169, pending issuance of substitute certificate and pre-employment verification, for the 2020-2021 school year. If the season is shortened as a result of a state-directed closing, the stipend will be prorated.
4. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of **Robert Mangini**, JV Boys Basketball Coach, Cresskill High School, year 1, step 2, \$4,621, pending criminal history clearance, for the 2020-2021 school year. If the season is shortened as a result of a state-directed closing, the stipend will be prorated.
5. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of **John Lisella**, Freshman Basketball Coach, Cresskill High School, year 1, step 2, \$4,541, pending criminal history clearance and pre-employment verification, for the 2020-2021 school year. If the season is shortened as a result of a state-directed closing, the stipend will be prorated.
6. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of **Joseph Voza**, Assistant Spring Track Coach, Cresskill High School, year 1, step 1, \$4,357, pending criminal history clearance and pre-employment verification, for the 2020-2021 school year. If the season is shortened as a result of a state-directed closing, the stipend will be prorated.
7. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of **Jeffrey Domville**, Indoor Track Coach, Cresskill High School, year 1, step 1, \$2,081, for the 2020-2021 school year. If the season is shortened as a result of a state-directed closing, the stipend will be prorated.
8. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the revised estimated maternity leave request of **Lisa Ruane**, School Social Worker, District, effective March 13, 2020, paid using available sick and personal days until the date of birth, then placed on unpaid leave of absence in accordance with NJFLA and FMLA for ten (10) weeks following the birth of child, for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year, returning the first day of school in September 2021.

**EDUCATIONAL PLANNING:**

1. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that, subject to the applicable restrictions and requirements set forth in the New Jersey travel payment guidelines as established by the Department of the Treasury, as well as those guidelines established by the Office of Management and Budget, except to the extent that said guidelines conflict with the provisions of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes, the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby approves travel related to attendance, as well as the payment and/or reimbursement for the allowable costs and expenses associated with the attendance at the conferences or workshops for the professional staff as noted, so long as said costs and/or expenses are consistent with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:12-11.

**Name:** Tom Schillaci  
**Date(s):** December 2-3, 2020  
**Conference:** Virtual WebCTRL Training  
**Registration Fee:** \$1,000

2. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Professional Development with **Heinemann for Fountas & Pinnell Level Literacy Intervention**, 6 days for up to 30 teachers, dates TBD, in the amount of \$16,800 utilizing Coordinated Early Intervention Services funds of the IDEA federal grant.
3. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the **School Safety and Security Plan Annual Review Statement of Assurance** for the **2020-2021** school year.
4. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the **Annual Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Grade Self-Assessment** for the **2019-2020** school year.
5. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, in accordance with the student's IEP for the 2020-2021 school year, approve the following service for **student #3127597273, Orton Gillingham Service**, Marie Rosato, 3x/week, 30 sessions, \$75/session, totaling \$2,250 effective November 11, 2020 through June 20, 2021.

**FINANCE:**

1. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the Bill List November 2020. (Attachment F-1A)

Fund 10	General Fund	\$ 240,382.67
Fund 20	Special Revenue	\$ 57,594.30
Fund 30	Capital Projects	\$ 0.00
Fund 40	Debt Service	\$ 0.00
Fund 60	Cafeteria Account	\$ 0.00
Total		\$ 297,976.97

Void Checks Fund 10 \$0.00



2. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the Final Bill List October 2020. (Attachment F-1B) Includes previously approved checks.

Fund 10	General Fund	\$ 3,105,616.13
Fund 20	Special Revenue	\$ 69,656.39
Fund 30	Capital Projects	\$ 70,860.40
Fund 40	Debt Service	\$ 0.00
Fund 60	Cafeteria Account	\$ 0.00
Total		\$ 3,246,132.92

Void Checks Fund 10 \$2,837.46

3. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the Board Secretary's Report for the month ending October, 2020 and certify that no major account has been over expended in violation of NJAC 6A:23-2.11(c) 3K, and that, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8 and 18A:22-8-1 sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. (Attachment F-2)
4. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the Monthly Reconciliation Report for the month ending October, 2020. (Attachment F-3)
5. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the budget transfers for the month of October 2020. (Attachment F-4)
6. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the Business Administrator to pay December 2020 bills.
7. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Cresskill Board of Education (Joiner District) does hereby approve the joint transportation agreement with the New Milford Board of Education (Host District) for the purposes of transporting students in accordance with Chapter 53, P.L. 1997 for the time period of the 2020-2021 school year. The services to be provided include, but are not limited to, special education and vocational and technical programs.
8. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and district architect, DiCara Rubino Architects, approve **Payment of Request #4** from **Salazar & Associates** in the amount of **\$38,674.50** for work completed to date on Project 3680-Change in Use for OT/PT and SGI at Edward H. Bryan School.
9. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the Bergen County CARES School Allocation in the amount of \$29,572.20.

**10. Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the 2021-2022 Budget Calendar.

**11. Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Letter of Intent with St. Therese of Lisieux Church in regards to a lease of the vacant school building located on Jefferson Ave in Cresskill, NJ. The Letter of Intent stipulates a non-refundable payment of \$20,000.

**12. Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the submission of the School Security Grant Application, with an award of \$102,205. The funds are to be used in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:7G-5.2 to replace and add surveillance cameras throughout the district. Additional expenditures not covered by the grant will be allocated to General Fund Account 11-000-266-420 (Security - Professional Services).

**POLICY:**

- 1. Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following Policy and Regulation:  
**8330 - Student Records (Revised)**