

CRESSKILL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting/Public Budget Hearing, April 26, 2021
Merritt Memorial School Gymnasium, 7:00 P.M.

The Regular Meeting of the Cresskill Board of Education was held on Monday April 26, 2021 in the gymnasium of Merritt Memorial School. The meeting was called to order by President Villani at 7:00 p.m.

President Villani led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Trustee Amy Cusick
Trustee Michael DePalo
Trustee Mary Klein
Vice President Stephen Moldt
Trustee Raffi Odabashian
President Denise Villani

ABSENT: Trustee Sally Cummings
Trustee Eugene Gorfin
Trustee Dionna Griffin

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.”

PRESENTATION

Public Budget Hearing, Dawn Delasandro, Business Administrator

Ms. Delasandro and Mr. Burke presented the budget for the 2021/2022 school year. They covered current year accomplishments and goals for the coming year. Ms. Delasandro explained some of the challenges including contractual salary increases, reduced tuition receivable and technology purchases. The final budget proposes a 2% tax levy increase which equates to an increase of \$205 per year for the average assessed household.

INFORMATION ITEMS

May 10 - CBOE Regular Meeting, MMS Gymnasium, 7:00 PM
May 24 - CBOE Regular Meeting, MMS Gymnasium, 7:00 PM
May 31 - Memorial Day, School Closed

June 14 - CBOE Regular Meeting, MMS Gymnasium, 7:00 PM

June 28 - CBOE Regular Meeting, MMS Gymnasium, 7:00 PM

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Motion to Introduce Consent Agenda

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

- Minutes: 1
- Personnel: 1 THROUGH 6
- Educational Planning: 1 THROUGH 4
- Finance: 1 THROUGH 6
- Policy: 1 THROUGH 1

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

Trustee Klein commented that there are numerous leave requests at EHB. Mr. Burke responded that they are all allowable leaves but getting substitutes has been a huge challenge. Trustee Cusick asked about the resignation of Jude Saoud, to which Mr. Burke replied that it was a personal decision. Trustee Klein commented on the Policy #2436, that parent should pay the fee for their child to participate in activities at another school at the appropriate time, such as when they are accepted onto a team, and not before.

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.

There were no comments from the public.

D. Close public participation

E. ROLL CALL VOTE - CONSENT AGENDA

ROLL CALL VOTE

YES NO ABSTAIN ABSENT

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Trustee Cummings				✓
Trustee Cusick	✓			
Trustee DePalo	✓			

Trustee Gorfin				✓
Trustee Griffin				✓
Trustee Klein	✓			
Vice President Moldt	✓			
Trustee Odabashian	✓			
President Villani	✓			

BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT

President Villani thanked Maryann Gallivan for her donation to the Elizabeth Gallivan Memorial Scholarship Fund. President Villani noted that enrollment is rising. She stated that Season 3 sports are complete, and that spring sports have begun, keeping students busy. President Villani attended the county legislative meeting in which many September related events were discussed. She completed the test for Master Board Member and is awaiting the results. President Villani thanked Mr. Burke, Ms. Delasandro and the administrative team for their work on the Budget.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Mr. Burke congratulated President Villani. Mr. Burke stated that Governor Murphy lifted limits on outside gatherings. Cresskill ceremonies being held outside include the high school graduation, elementary moving up ceremonies, Prom in the high school parking lot. Mr. Burke cautioned that masks are important, the district is moving forward, and that the news is positive.

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.

David Spelbrink thanked Ms. Delasandro for the budget presentation and congratulated President Villani. He asked about current attendance rates. Mr. Burke commented that Elementary and Middle School attendance is still strong, especially after Spring Break. High School attendance is still not great. Mr. Spelbrink thinks we should try to go to full day ASAP. Mr. Burke agrees and wants to have a few days back to full day before June. Mr. Spelbrink asked if all state testing is postponed until September. Mr. Burke confirmed and stated that there has been no guidance from the state yet. Mrs. Lobue, 116 Tenakill Road, thanked Ms. Delasandro for the budget presentation and also congratulated President Villani. She stated that she has ideas for lunch in the spring to use lunch trucks that the PTA would coordinate and use as a fundraiser. Trustee Odabashian asked about the internet. Derrick Cusick suggested a permanent safety barrier protecting students and attendees from the batter’s box at baseball/softball games after a student lost teeth.

TRUSTEE COMMENT

Trustee Cusick asked how many snow days were used. Mr. Burke replied that 2 of the 3 were used and that June 1, 2021 will be a “Snow Day”.

MOTION TO ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

Hearing no further business, the meeting adjourned to a Closed Session at 7:54 p.m. on the motion of Trustee Klein, seconded by Vice President Moldt, and approved by unanimous voice vote of those present.

The Cresskill Board of Education is adjourning to Closed Session for purposes of: Contract Discussion. 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.

MOTION TO RE-ENTER PUBLIC SESSION

On the motion of Trustee Klein, seconded by Vice President Moldt, and approved by unanimous voice vote of those present, the Board re-entered the Regular Meeting at 8:34 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Hearing no further business, the Regular meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m. on the motion of Trustee Klein, seconded by Vice President Moldt, and approved by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Delasandro

Dawn Delasandro
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

CONSENT AGENDA

Regular Meeting - April 26, 2021

MINUTES

1. Approval - March 8 and March 22, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes; March 22, 2021 Closed Meeting Minutes

PERSONNEL

1. Approval - Amend and approve the paid leave of absence request for Henry Surgent, Social Studies teacher, CHS, effective 04/12/2021 through 04/15/2021 then placed on unpaid leave of absence, in accordance with NJFLA and FMLA, effective 04/16/2021-06/06/2021
2. Approval - Estimated paid maternity leave request of Ellen Seavers Wolfstirn, Elementary teacher, EHB, effective 05/10/2021 through 06/22/2021, in accordance with FMLA and NJFLA, with an expected return date of 09/02/2021
3. Approval - Paid maternity leave request of Debra Warszniter, Elementary teacher, EHB, effective 06/01/2021 through 06/22/2021, in accordance with FMLA and doctor's note
4. Approval - Estimated unpaid maternity leave request of Debra Warszniter, Elementary teacher, EHB, effective 09/02/2021 through 11/26/2021 in accordance with NJFLA and FMLA, followed by an unpaid personal leave of absence from 11/27/2021 through the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year
5. Approval - Estimated paid maternity leave request of Atalia Palummieri Elementary teacher, EHB, effective 09/02/2021 through 10/05/2021 (half day) followed by an unpaid leave of absence from 10/05/2021 (half day) through 12/28/2021, in accordance with FMLA and NJFLA, and an unpaid personal leave of absence through the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year
6. Approval - Resignation of Jude Sauod, School Nurse, EHB, effective 06/21/2021

EDUCATIONAL PLANNING

1. Approval - Conferences/Workshops/Travel
2. Approval - New job description of Supervisor to Supervisor (Curriculum & Instruction K-12), effective 07/01/2021
3. Approval - Revised job description of Supervisor to Supervisor (Health & Physical Education) effective 07/01/2021
4. Approval - Bergen County Special Services Augmentative Communication Assessment, for hours/services not to exceed \$975, student #1807873678

FINANCE

1. Approval - Bills for April 2021
2. Approval - Additional Bill List for March 2021
3. Approval - Payment of Bills for May 2021
4. Approval - 2021-2022 final school budget for submission to Interim Executive County Superintendent

CBOE April 26, 2021 Regular Meeting/Public Budget Hearing MINUTES

- 5. Approval - Donation from Maryann Gallivan
- 6. Approval - Participation in NJSIAA

POLICY

- 1. Approval - First Reading, Policy 2436 - Activity Participation Fee Program

MINUTES:

1. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the minutes of:
 - March 8, 2021 - Regular Meeting Minutes
 - March 22, 2021 - Regular and Closed Meeting Minutes

PERSONNEL:

1. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, amend and approve the paid leave of absence request for **Henry Surgent**, Social Studies teacher, Cresskill High School, effective April 12, 2021 through April 15, 2021 then placed on unpaid leave of absence, in accordance with NJFLA and FMLA, effective April 16, 2021 through June 6, 2021.
2. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the estimated paid maternity leave request of **Ellen Seavers Wolfstirn**, Elementary teacher, Edward H. Bryan School, effective May 10, 2021 through June 22, 2021, in accordance with FMLA and NJFLA, with an expected return date of September 2, 2021.
3. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the paid maternity leave request of **Debra Warszniter**, Elementary teacher, Edward H. Bryan School, effective June 1, 2021 through June 22, 2021, in accordance with FMLA and doctor's note.
4. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the estimated unpaid maternity leave request of **Debra Warszniter**, Elementary teacher, Edward H. Bryan School, effective September 2, 2021 through November 26, 2021 in accordance with NJFLA and FMLA, followed by an unpaid personal leave of absence from November 27, 2021 through the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year.
5. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the estimated paid maternity leave request of **Atalia Palummieri** Elementary teacher, Edward H. Bryan School, effective September 2, 2021 through October 5, 2021 (half day) followed by an unpaid leave of absence from October 5, 2021 (half day) through December 28, 2021, in accordance with FMLA and NJFLA, and an unpaid personal leave of absence through the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year.
6. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the resignation of **Jude Sauod**, School Nurse, Edward H. Bryan School, effective June 21, 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: Michelle Taliento
Date(s): June 29 & 30, 2021
Conference: SNO (School Newspapers Online) Adviser Academy
 Virtual Workshop
Registration Fee: \$175

2. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the new job description of Supervisor to **Supervisor (Curriculum & Instruction K12)**, effective July 1, 2021.
3. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the revised job description of Supervisor to **Supervisor (Health & Physical Education)**, effective July 1, 2021.
4. **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 #1807873678**, Bergen County Special Services Augmentative Communication Assessment, for hours/services not to exceed \$975.00.

FINANCE:

1. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the Bill List April 2021. (Attachment F-1A)

Fund 10	General Fund	\$ 772,879.48
Fund 20	Special Revenue	\$ 50,078.93
Fund 30	Capital Projects	\$ 15,460.11
Fund 40	Debt Service	\$ 0.00
Fund 60	Cafeteria Account	\$ 2,507.50
Total		\$ 840,926.02

Void Checks \$ 0.00

2. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the Additional Bill List March 2021. (Attachment F-1B).

Fund 10	General Fund	\$ 168,401.59
Fund 20	Special Revenue	\$ 17,754.56
Fund 30	Capital Projects	\$ 0.00
Fund 40	Debt Service	\$ 0.00
Fund 60	Cafeteria Account	\$ 0.00

Total		\$ 186,156.15
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Void Checks \$ 0.00

3. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the Business Administrator to pay May, 2021 bills.
4. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following final budget for the 2021-2022 school year, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, included in budget line 620, Budgeted Withdrawal from Capital Reserve - Excess Costs & Other Capital Projects is \$900,000 that is for other capital projects: costs to replace the high school rooftop chiller. The total cost of the high school rooftop chiller replacement project is \$1,000,000, which represents expenditures for construction elements or projects that are in addition to the facilities efficiency standards determined by the Commissioner as necessary to achieve the core curriculum content standards.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the General Fund tax levy of \$28,812,109 is approved to support General Current Expenses and \$1,931,886 is approved to support Repayment of Debt for the ensuing school year 2021-2022; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the total budget for the ensuing school year 2021-2022 is \$37,366,098 which includes Special Revenue and Debt Service as follows:

<u>FUND</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>LOCAL TAX LEVY</u>
Total General Fund:	\$34,261,203	\$28,812,109
Total Special Revenue Fund:	\$1,023,317	n/a
Total Debt Service Fund:	\$2,081,578	\$1,931,886
TOTAL:	\$37,366,098	\$30,743,995

5. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the donation of \$1,150 from Maryann Gallavan to the Elizabeth Gallivan Memorial Scholarship Fund.
6. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the enrollment of the Cresskill School District as a member of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA), a non-profit association of the public and non-

public high schools in the State of New Jersey, and authorizes the Cresskill School District to participate in the approved athletic activities sponsored by the NJSIAA.

The Cresskill Board of Education hereby adopts as its own policy and agrees to be governed by the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of the NJSIAA.

Administrative Responsibility – NJSIAA must rely upon the voluntary compliance by its member schools in enforcing the eligibility standards set forth in NJSIAA Bylaws, Article V. Toward that end, the Principal of each member school has the affirmative obligation to report to the NJSIAA any violations of these standards. The fact that a school has disclosed that there has been an eligibility violation will not relieve the affected school of sanctions that may be imposed against it, pursuant to Article X of the NJSIAA Bylaws, including the forfeiture of games or events. However, the failure to disclose an eligibility violation may be grounds for imposing additional sanctions upon the offending school.

In addition, a school must maintain a status of “Member in Good Standing” as outlined in the Principal’s Affidavit to remain eligible for NJSIAA activities and tournaments.

POLICY:

1. First Reading of the following Policy:
2436 - Activity Participation Fee Program (New)