

CRESSKILL BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting, October 11, 2021

Due to public health considerations this regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting will be held via a Zoom video, 7:00 P.M.

The Regular Meeting of the Cresskill Board of Education was held on Monday October 11, 2021 via Zoom video. 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 Sally Cummings
Trustee Amy Cusick
Trustee Michael DePalo
Trustee Eugene Gorfin
Trustee Mary Klein
Vice President Stephen Moldt Arr. 7:29pm
Trustee Raffi Odabashian
President Denise Villani

ABSENT: 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 via Zoom video, 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

Graduation Pathway Data by Mr. Burke

Mr. Burke explained that the school tracks graduation rates for 9th through 12th graders. CSI is 5 or 6 years. 4-year graduation rate is 99.2%, 5 year - 98.4%, 6 year - 97.8%

INFORMATION ITEMS

October 14 - HSA Parent Speaker (zoom program) - "Managing the Unknown: Resources to Stay Resilient with Change", part 1 of a 3-part Mental Health & Wellness Series presented by the Graf Center for Integrative Medicine, a wellness center in Bergen County, 7:00 PM

- October 25** - CBOE Regular Meeting, MMS Gymnasium, 7:00 PM
- November 4 & 5** - NJEA Convention - School Closed
- November 8** - CBOE Regular Meeting, MMS Gymnasium, 7:00 PM
- November 10, 11 & 12** - Minimum Days for Elementary Schools ONLY for Parent Teacher Conferences
- November 22** - CBOE Regular Meeting, MMS Gymnasium, 7:00 PM
- November 24** - Minimum Day, Thanksgiving Recess
- November 25 & 26** - Thanksgiving Recess

President Villani reviewed the items of information. The next Board meeting will be held at MMS.

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.

Personnel:	1 THROUGH 11
Educational Planning:	1 THROUGH 5
Finance:	1 THROUGH 11
Policy:	1

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

Trustee Klein asked about MediMobile and what percent of school employees were vaccinated. Ms. Delasandro explained that MediMobile is an on-site rapid test company for staff at no charge to the district. Mr. Burke stated close to 90%. President Villani was amazed by and thankful for the donations.

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.

Mr. Spelbrink asked about the Director of Guidance. Mr. Burke reviewed Michael Stone. Mr. Burke was thankful that Mr. Mejia delayed his paternity leave. Trustee Gorfin stated that Tom Krenn has been ineffective and asked what is going on with Guidance. Mr. Burke is working with the town library so the Guidance department can return in person on a daily basis.

D. Close public participation

E. ROLL CALL VOTE - CONSENT AGENDA

ROLL CALL VOTE

	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 attended the Volleyball game. The band is performing in Clifton on 10/24. She was disappointed with parent participation at Back to School Night. President Villani toured St. Therese. She thanked all for their work above and beyond. She reminded everyone of the upcoming Candidates Night.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Mr. Burke is planning to get the students back in person. Mr. Burke thanked Mr. Barkan for his assistance with temporary heating. Mr. Burke stated that he can move forward with the temporary plan because of donations and that fundraising is still needed for temporary heating . He would like to get the C and D wings open, which are about 20 classrooms. He is working with FEMA on the permanent solution. St. Therese will be used for as many children as possible. The high school needs to be made safe before students are brought back. The internet and power are still on at the MS/HS. There will be no media center, cafeteria, or auditorium. The town has been very helpful. Trustee Cusick asked how much fundraising was needed. Mr. Burke replied \$90,000 for heating. Mr. Burke is working on temporary heating and permanent solutions at the same time. Vice president Moldt added that mechanical air circulation is required in a school building. Trustee Gorfin asked if the science labs will

be open. Mr. Burke replied no, they were gutted. Trustee Cummings asked what was cut from the budget. Mr. Burke replied that there were no staff cuts but certain projects have been put off. Trustee Klein asked about other finance options. She is willing to fundraise, but it seems like a lot. Mr. Burke commented that time is of the essence to fundraise so that purchase orders can be issued.

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. burke read questions typed into Zoom Chat. Ms. Migardos asked how much we need to fundraise. Mr. Burke replied \$30,000 to \$90,000. Mr. Spelbrink asked if FEMA needs to be paid back. Ms. Barrs asked what is the bottom line fundraising goal, can a GoFundMe be set up, what do you see school looking like in January, when do you see school being back 100%. Mr. Burke replied that small progress is being made each week and that he expects school to be open 100% next year. Ms. Weissy gave a big thank you for the hard work being done. Ms. Shick asked what the Governor's office is giving us. Will there be any State Aid to supplement what FEMA is providing. Ms. Migardos thanked all for the hard work being done and stated that today's positive news and a plan that allows the parents and the community to help is very encouraging. Ms. Kovar stated that GoFundMe is too expensive. The HSA is working on other fundraisers and will send an email soon to all parents. Trustee Cusick asked about winter sports. Mr. Burke replied that he wants to keep the gym as a gym but will put educational classes first. Ms. Solano asked about updating the website, much of the information is outdated.

TRUSTEE COMMENT

Trustee Gorfin asked if the remediation is complete, about internet connectivity at St. Therese, and about Special Education tuition. Mr. Burke replied that remediation is complete and that progress is being made on the wireless and connectivity, but it will not hold up getting into the building. Ms. Delasandro replied that 3 students have left, and that Dr. Amato is doing everything to keep tuition-paying students at Cresskill. Trustee Gorfin asked about crossover teachers being home and in-person. Mr. Burke replied that he will be reducing that as much as possible through scheduling changes.

MOTION TO ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

Hearing no further business, the meeting adjourned to a Closed Session at 8:06 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: Legal. 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 8:52 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Hearing no further business, the Regular meeting adjourned at 8:52 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 - October 11, 2021

PERSONNEL

1. Approval - Appointment of Denise Torres, World Language Teacher, CHS, MA, Step 14, \$90,600, effective 12/05/2021
2. Approval - Compensation to Mary Jane Luppino, CMS, Diversity & Inclusion curriculum writing, July 2021
3. Approval - Provisional Teacher Program Mentoring compensation for Patricia Auger, \$550, for Samantha Fecci, EHB
4. Approval - Provisional Teacher Program Mentoring compensation for Julie Rooney, \$550, for Grace Park, EHB
5. Approval - Provisional Teacher Program Mentoring compensation for Kevin Cardenas, \$1,000, for Thomas Rose, CMS/CHS
6. Approval - Paternity leave of Jostine Mejia, Science Department, CHS, effective 11/29/2021 through 02/28/22
7. Approval - Two overages for Jason Carini, CHS, \$12,000, CHS, retroactive to 09/01/2021
8. Approval - Deduction in compensation for Mary Jane Luppino, English teacher, CMS, one day, \$345.33
9. Approval - Compensation to District and contracted Paraprofessionals for Handle with Care training on 10/22/2021
10. Approval - Appointment of Michael Stone, Director of Guidance, \$138,206 (pro-rated) effective 12/13/2021
11. Approval - Appointment of Daniel Apice, Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant, MA, Step 9, \$76,210 (pro-rated), effective 12/13/2021

EDUCATIONAL PLANNING

1. Approval - Revised Cresskill Organizational Chart effective 2021-2022 school year
2. Approval - Dr. Holahan, St. Joseph's, developmental service, student #4469035885
3. Approval - Update to Uniform Memorandum of Agreement between Cresskill School District and Cresskill Police Department for 2021-2022
4. Approval - Replacement of Audio Shoe Oticon FM9 device, student #7738223812
5. Approval - Educational services through Learn Well Education, for student #8352823248

FINANCE

1. Approval - Accept donation from Cresskill Cougars United Soccer Club
2. Approval - Accept donations to the Elizabeth Gallivan Memorial Scholarship Fund
3. Approval - Accept donation of books from Voorhees Middle School Students
4. Approval - Accept donation/loan of various furnishings from other school districts
5. Approval - Settlement Agreement, OOD placement of special education student, \$49,560
6. Approval - Settlement Agreement, OOD placement of special education student, \$44,524
7. Approval - Contract between CSI Program and West Bergen Mental Healthcare, Inc.
8. Approval - Appointment of Bond Counsel
9. Approval - Rental of modular trailer from Williams Scotsman, Inc.
10. Approval - Lease Agreement with St. Therese of Lisieux

11. Approval - Agreement with MediMobile for Covid-19 testing

POLICY

1. Approval - Move to suspend the rules of Bylaw 0131 that requires two readings to adopt a Bylaw or Policy and adopt Policy 16488.11 and 1648.13 with one reading to be in compliance with The Road Forward Covid -19 Health and Safety policy and School Employee Vaccination requirements

PERSONNEL:

1. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of **Denise Torres**, World Language Teacher, Cresskill High School, MA, Step 14, \$90,036 (pro-rated), pending criminal history review and pre-employment verification, effective December 5, 2021, for the 2021-2022 school year.
2. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve compensation for **Mary Jane Luppino**, English teacher, Cresskill Middle School, for Diversity and Inclusion curriculum writing, 4 hours, \$35.21/hour, on July 29, 2021.
3. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the NJDOE regulation compensation to **Patricia Auger**, as mentor for provisional teacher Samantha Fecci, Edward H. Bryan School, \$550 for the 2021-2022 school year.
4. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the NJDOE regulation compensation to **Julie Rooney**, as mentor for provisional teacher Grace Park, Edward H. Bryan School, \$550 for the 2021-2022 school year.
5. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the NJDOE regulation compensation to **Kevin Cardenas**, as mentor for provisional teacher Thomas Rose, Cresskill Middle/High School, \$1,000 for the 2021-2022 school year.
6. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the paternity leave of absence for **Jostine Mejia**, Science teacher, Cresskill High School, effective November 29, 2021 through February 28, 2022.
7. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve compensation for two overages for **Jason Carini**, Business Department, CHS, \$12,000, retroactive to September 1, 2021, for the 2021-2022 school year.
8. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the deduction in compensation for **Mary Jane Luppino**, English teacher, Cresskill Middle School, one (1) day, \$345.33, for October 6, 2021.
9. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve compensation to all district and contracted **Paraprofessionals** at their hourly rate, 3.5 hours, for Handle with Care Training on October 11, 2021.
10. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of **Michael Stone**, Director of Guidance, Cresskill Middle/High School, \$138,206 (pro-rated), pending criminal history review and pre-employment verification, effective December 13, 2021 for the 2021-2022 school year.

- 11. Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of **Daniel Apice**, Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant, District, MA, Step 9, \$76,210 (pro-rated), pending criminal history review and pre-employment verification, effective December 13, 2021 for the 2021-2022 school year.

EDUCATIONAL PLANNING:

- 1. Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the revised **Cresskill Organizational Chart** effective in the 2021-2022 school year.
- 2. Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, in accordance with the student's IEP for the 2021-2022 school year, approve the developmental service for **student #4469035885**, with Dr. Holahan, St. Joseph's Hospital, 1 visit, \$450, on September 13, 2021.
- 3. Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the update to **Uniform Memorandum of Agreement between Cresskill School District and Cresskill Police Department for 2021-2022**.
- 4. Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, in accordance with the student's IEP for the 2021-2022 school year, approve the replacement of an Audio Shoe Oticon FM9 device for **student #7738223812**, for \$68.99.
- 5. Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, in accordance with the student's IEP for the 2021-2022 school year, approve educational services through Learn Well Education, for **student #8352823248**, 10 hours/week, \$51/hour effective October 5, 2021 through December 5, 2021.

FINANCE:

- 1. Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the donation of \$5,000 from the **Cresskill Cougars United Soccer Club** for Hurricane Ida storm damage repairs.
- 2. Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the total donation of \$1,200 from individual donors (in memory of Marianne Gallivan) to the **Elizabeth Gallivan Memorial Scholarship Fund**.

Donor	Amount
Schwitter Family Trust	\$500
Mr. and Mrs. J. Bailey	\$50
Mr. and Mrs. J Dunbar III	\$150
Barbara Schultz	\$100
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Zanone	\$100

Mr. and Mrs. M. Spina	\$100
Ms. Christine McGettigan	\$100
Ms. Christine C. Burke	\$100

3. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the donation of books with a value of \$1,085 from the **Voorhees Middle School students**.
4. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the donation/loan of the following furnishings:

School District	Item	Return/Keep
Demarest	64 desk/chair combos	Return
Haworth	34 tables	Return
Closter	135 desk/chair combos, stools	Keep
Englewood	Access points	Keep
Englewood	48 desks/chairs	Return
Norwood	10 laptop carts	Keep
Hawthorne	75 desk/chair combos tables + chairs	Keep

5. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and in accordance with the Settlement Agreement with the parents/guardians of **student #3320625486** dated January 26, 2021 approve for reimbursement the tuition for out of district school attendance in the amount of **\$49,560.00** for the 21/22 school year, plus costs of transportation to be paid by the district directly to the transporter.
6. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the Settlement Agreement with the parents/guardians of **student #22297** which includes payment of tuition for out of district school attendance in the amount of **\$44,524.00**.
7. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the contract with **West Bergen Mental Healthcare, Inc.**, for a social skills after-school program for 33 weeks at a cost of \$575.76 per week, for a total cost of \$19,000, effective October 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022.
8. **APPOINTMENT OF BOND COUNSEL**

WHEREAS, there exists a need for specialized legal services in connection with the capital program and the authorization and issuance of obligations of The Board of Education of the Borough of Cresskill in the County of Bergen (the "Board"), a body corporate of the State of New

Jersey, including the preparation and review of procedures in connection with such obligations and the rendering of approving legal opinions acceptable to the financial community in connection therewith; and

WHEREAS, such special legal services can be provided only by a recognized law firm, and the law firm of Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., Woodbridge, New Jersey is so recognized by the financial community; and

WHEREAS, funds are or will be available for this purpose.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BOROUGH OF CRESSKILL IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY AS FOLLOWS:

1. The law firm of Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., Woodbridge, New Jersey is hereby retained to provide specialized bond counsel legal services necessary in connection with the capital program and the authorization and the issuance of obligations by the Board.
 2. The Board President and the Board Secretary are hereby authorized to execute a Bond Services Contract (the "Contract").
 3. The Contract is awarded without competitive bidding and as a "Professional Service" in accordance with the Public School Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5(a)(1), because it is for services performed by persons authorized by law to practice a recognized profession.
 4. A copy of this resolution as well as the Contract shall be placed on file with the Secretary of the Board. The publication required pursuant to Section 5(a)(1) of the School Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:-1 et seq. is hereby authorized
- 9. Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve rental of modular trailer from Williams Scotsman, Inc. for administrative staff at Cresskill Middle/High School as an emergency procurement in the amount of \$24,492.92 for four months, plus \$2,845 for each additional month beyond the initial four month rental period.
- 10. Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the lease between St. Therese of Lisieux and the Cresskill Board of Education for facilities at 220 Jefferson Ave. from September 2021 through June 2022 at a monthly lease rate of \$25,000/month.
- 11. Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the Agreement with MediMobile to provide Covid-19 testing, at no cost to the district, to all individuals working or volunteering for the Cresskill Board of Education for the 2021-2022 school year.

POLICY:

1. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, move to suspend the rules of Bylaw 0131 that requires two readings to adopt a Bylaw or Policy and adopt Policy 1648.11 and Policy 1648.13 with one reading to be in compliance with the new The Road Forward Covid-19 - Health and Safety policy and School Employee Vaccination Requirements.

Policy 1648.11, The Road Forward Covid-19 - Health and Safety - New
Policy 1648.13, School Employee Vaccination Requirements - New