

**Special Meeting  
August 6, 2020  
6:14 P.M.**

A Special Meeting of the Kearny Board of Education was held in the Board Room, 172 Midland Avenue, and via teleconference, on the evening of the above date.

President Paris called the meeting to order and announced that in accordance with Chapter 231, Laws of 1975, Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of the meeting was provided to the Star Ledger and Jersey Journal and notice of the meeting was filed with the Town Clerk by letter dated August 4, 2020, and posted on the District website.

**ROLL CALL**

On roll call, the following members were present: Ms. Lindenfelser, Mr. Mc Kenna, Mrs. Sherry, Mr. Soares, Mr. Viscuso, Mr. Zapata, President Paris.

Dr. Edward Izbicki, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, and Kenneth J. Lindenfelser, Esq., Board Attorney, were also present.

**PURPOSE OF THE MEETING**

The purpose of the special meeting joint committee meeting is as follows: To take action regarding district personnel matters, the district's Back to School Plan, acceptance of a Board member resignation, and a transportation bid.

**BOARD MEMBER ARRIVES**

Mrs. Davidson arrived at 6:15 p.m.

**MOTION RE: CLOSED SESSION**

The following resolution was moved by Mr. Zapata and seconded by Mrs. Sherry:

Resolved: by the Board of Education of the Town of Kearny, in the County of Hudson, that in accordance with Chapter 231, Laws of 1975, Open Public Meetings Act, the Board will enter into Closed Session at this time to discuss District personnel matters, the District's back to school plan, and a transportation bid.

When the matters under consideration have been completed, any necessary action will be disclosed to the public.

On roll call, the following vote was recorded: Mrs. Davidson, "aye", Ms. Lindenfelser, "aye", Mr. Mc Kenna, "aye", Mrs. Sherry, "aye", Mr. Soares, "aye", Mr. Viscuso, "aye", Mr. Zapata, "aye", President Paris, "aye".

There being eight votes in the affirmative, the motion was carried.

**BOARD ENTERS CLOSED SESSION**

The Board entered into Closed Session at 6:16 p.m.

**BOARD RETURNS TO OPEN SESSION**

The Board returned to Open Session at 7:10 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Mrs. Davidson, Ms. Lindenfelser, Mr. Mc Kenna, Mrs. Sherry, Mr. Soares, Mr. Viscuso, Mr. Zapata, President Paris.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mrs. Paris led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**SUPERINTENDENT SPEAKS**

Mrs. Blood addressed the assembly with the results of the parent survey concerning their choice of how to return to school. The survey indicated 40-45% of parents favored virtual lessons, while 55-60% chose the hybrid model.

**REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT – Mrs. Blood**

The following resolution was moved by Mrs. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Mc Kenna and unanimously carried:

**A. RESIGNATIONS**

The following resignations have been accepted:

Laura Colletti, Teacher of Culinary Arts at Kearny High School, effective 60 days from the date of her letter dated July 31, 2020, or sooner if a replacement is appointed.

Katie Goya, Kindergarten Teacher at Schuyler School, effective July 30, 2020.

Victor Goya, Custodian, effective 30 days from the date of notice dated July 30, 2020.

The following resolutions, "B-1, 2, 3, 4" were moved by Mrs. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Mc Kenna and unanimously carried:

**B. APPOINTMENTS**

Approval has been granted to appoint the following new teaching staff for the 2020/2021 school year, pending criminal history review, background checks as required by law, and ability to obtain appropriate New Jersey certification:

**1. Professional Staff – Regular Contract**

NAME	POSITION	LOCATION	STEP	CERT	SALARY	REPLACE/ NEW
Bell, Jessica	Kindergarten	Roosevelt	I	BA	\$52,175	Norton
Figueroa, Gabrielle	Guidance Counselor	Roosevelt	6/7	MA	\$61,540 +\$2,462	Olguin
Tucker, Kelly	Kindergarten	Schuyler	3/4	MA	\$59,275	Goya

**2. Professional Staff – One-Year Contract**

NAME	POSITION	LOCATION	STEP	CERT	SALARY	REPLACE/ NEW
Scancarella, Kyle	Soc Studies /Science	Schuyler	I	MA	\$58,275	Bongiovanni

**3. Summer School Teachers**

The following staff members as teachers for the 2020/2021 Summer School at the remuneration of \$40.00 per hour in accordance with the 2020/2021 K.E.A. Salary Guide, for a total of 60 hours each (2 hours per day for 30 days).

Adamski, John  
Blumenfeld, Erika  
Bush, Nicholas  
Kelly, Robert

Mc Donnell, Brian  
Romano, Robert  
Tejedor, Belkys

**4. Video Tutorial Production**

The following staff members have been approved to provide video tutorials on various projects; remuneration at the K.E.A. contractual hourly rate of \$40.00, not more than 50 hours per person:

Afayee, Sima  
Gorin, Jeremy  
Keim, Laurie

Polk, Danielle  
Varela, Cindy

## **BOARD MEMBERS DEPART MEETING**

Ms. Lindenfelser and Mr. Viscuso departed the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

## **DISCUSSION**

Prior to consideration of the resolution to approve the district's TRAKS plan for re-entry to schools, a discussion was held prompted by questions from observers regarding the topic. After consideration, the original resolution was revised, as follows:

The following resolution was moved by Mrs. Davidson and seconded by Mrs. Sherry:

### **C. APPROVAL OF "TRAKS" PLAN**

The Kearny Board of Education hereby approves a fully-virtual program for all Kearny schools until such time that the Board believes it is completely safe to return students and teachers to schools and votes to shift to the Kearny School District's "Transitioning to Reopening All Kearny Schools" (TRAKS), (including Board Policy 1648 "Restart and Recovery Plan – *first reading*, and Appendix "Q" (Board Policy 1648.02 "Remote Learning Options for Families" – *first reading*), to be submitted to the New Jersey Department of Education for review. "TRAKS" Plan.

And be it further resolved that the Kearny Board of Education hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to make adjustments to said plan as needed and/or required.

On roll call, the following vote was recorded: Mrs. Davidson, "aye", Mr. Mc Kenna, "aye", Mrs. Sherry, "aye", Mr. Soares, "aye", Mr. Zapata, "aye", President Paris, "aye".

There being six votes in the affirmative, the motion was carried.

The following resolution was moved by Mrs. Davidson, seconded by Mrs. Sherry and unanimously carried:

### **D. AUTHORITY TO HIRE BETWEEN MEETINGS**

The Board of Education hereby grants authority to the Superintendent of Schools to hire staff in between Board meetings with confirming approval at the next regularly-scheduled meeting.

## **REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT – ADDENDUM**

The following resolution was moved by Mrs. Sherry, seconded by Mr. Mc Kenna and unanimously carried:

### **APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRINCIPAL**

The Board has approved the appointment of Antonio Moyano as Acting Principal at Roosevelt School, STEP 1 of the 2019/2020 K.S.A.A. Salary Guide, which is an annual salary of \$155,564 (prorated), effective August 10, 2020 and until such time as Mr. Way is able to return to his duties.

## **BOARD PRESIDENT SPEAKS**

President Paris introduced correspondence from Bernadette Mc Donald who will step down from her position as a member of the Kearny school board, following 19-1/2 years of service. On behalf of the Board, Mrs. Paris thanked Bernadette for her many years of service, noting that although she often faced big obstacles along the way, she was always determined to do the best for the children of Kearny.

Mrs. Blood commended Bernadette for her absolute support, and added that although there were times they were not in agreement, they always managed to come to consensus, and always supported the direction of the district.

## **ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF BERNADETTE MC DONALD**

The Kearny Board of Education hereby accepts the letter of resignation dated August 2, 2020 from Board of Education member Bernadette Mc Donald.

## **BOARD PRESIDENT SPEAKS**

President Paris announced that formal requests to serve as a Board member in the position vacated by Mrs. Mc Donald will be accepted by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary with a deadline of no later than Thursday, August 20, 2020 at 3 p.m. This notice has been posted on the district's website.

**REPORT OF THE BOARD ATTORNEY – Mr. Lindenfelser**

Mr. Lindenfelser addressed the need to perform a re-bid of the transportation contracts for the 2020/2021 school year.

The following resolution was moved by Mr. Soares, seconded by Mrs. Davidson and unanimously carried:

**AUTHORIZATION TO RE-BID SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION CONTRACTS**

The Kearny Board of Education hereby authorizes the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to proceed with the re-bid of school transportation contracts for the 2020/2021 school year.

**OBSERVER**

Marcy Fisher extended her thanks to Mrs. Mc Donald for their many years of a mutual working relationship and collaboration in pursuit of the best for Kearny School District's students and staff.

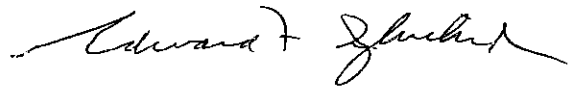
**MOTION RE: ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Mrs. Davidson, seconded by Mrs. Sherry and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Business Administrator/  
Board Secretary