

**Regular Meeting  
November 20, 2017  
6:00 P.M.**

The Regular Meeting of the Kearny Board of Education was held in the Board Room, 172 Midland Avenue, on the evening of the above date.

Vice President Granelli 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 Jersey Journal and the Star Ledger. Notice of the meeting was filed with the Office of the Town Clerk and posted on the District's website.

**ROLL CALL**

On roll call, the following members were present: Mrs. Mc Donald, Mrs. Sherry, Mr. Viscuso, Mr. Zapata, Mr. Granelli.

Mrs. Patricia Blood, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Ronald Smith, Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary, and Kenneth J. Lindenfelser, Jr., Esq., Board Attorney, Esq., were also present.

**MOTION RE: CLOSED SESSION**

The following resolution was introduced by Mrs. Sherry, who moved its adoption:

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, negotiations, and/or pending/ongoing litigation.

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

Seconded by Mrs. Mc Donald.

On roll call, the following vote was recorded: Mrs. Mc Donald, "aye", Mrs. Sherry, "aye", Mr. Viscuso, "aye", Mr. Zapata, "aye", Mr. Granelli, "aye".

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

**BOARD ENTERS CLOSED SESSION**

The Board entered into Closed Session at 6:01 p.m.

**BOARD RETURNS TO OPEN SESSION**

The Board returned to Open Session at 7:09 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

On roll call, the following members were present: Mrs. Mc Donald, Mrs. Sherry, Mr. Viscuso, Mr. Zapata, Mr. Granelli.

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

Mr. Doran, Mrs. Davidson, Mr. Hill, and Ms. Lindenfelser were unable to attend the meeting.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Granelli led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**MOTION RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Mr. Zapata and seconded by Mrs. Sherry that the minutes of the following meetings be hereby approved:

Regular Meeting, October 16, 2017 at 6:00 P.M.  
Closed Session, October 16, 2017 at 6:03 P.M.

On roll call, the following vote was recorded: Mrs. Mc Donald, "aye", Mrs. Sherry, "aye", Mr. Viscuso, "not voting", Mr. Zapata, "aye", Mr. Granelli, "aye".

There being four votes in the affirmative and one member “not voting”, the motion was carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Athletic/Student Activities** – Mr. Viscuso

Mr. Viscuso highlighted the accomplishments of a very successful Fall season, including Girls Soccer, Tennis and Volleyball, the Marching Band and Cheerleading squad culminating in the Boys Soccer Team victory against Princeton for State Championship.

**Curriculum and Instruction** – Mrs. Sherry

Mrs. Sherry reported on the articulation agreement between Kearny High School and Farleigh Dickinson University, which is being presented for adoption during the Superintendent’s Report.

**Facilities** – Mr. Viscuso

Mr. Viscuso reported that all the classrooms at the High School are open, the training are being taken down next week, and the field resurfacing is nearly complete.

**Finance** – Mrs. Mc Donald

Mrs. Mc Donald reported that all items discussed during Committee will be presented in Mr. De Vita’s report.

**Personnel** – Mrs. Mc Donald

Mrs. Mc Donald reported that the personnel items discussed during Committee will be presented in the Superintendent’s report, and noted for the record the retirement notices from the following staff members: Rosalind Baxter-Hines, Virginia Desmond, Gerald Ficeto, and Linda Stevenson.

**Policy** – Ms. Lindenfelser

In Ms. Lindenfelser’s absence, Mr. Zapata stated there was no report this month.

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

The following resolutions, “A through L”, were moved by Mrs. Sherry, seconded by Mrs. Mc Donald and unanimously carried:

**A. RETIREMENTS**

The following retirement notices were accepted, with regret:

Rosalind Baxter-Hines, Teacher of English at Kearny High School, effective May 1, 2018 after 16 years of service to Kearny Public Schools;

Virginia Desmond, ASI at Washington School, effective January 1, 2018 after 13-1/2 years of service to Kearny Public Schools;

Gerald Ficeto, Teacher of Music at Franklin School, effective July 1, 2018 after 25-1/2 years of service to Kearny Public Schools;

Linda Stevenson, Secretary assigned to Special Services, effective January 1, 2018 after 17 years of service to Kearny Public Schools.

**B. APPOINTMENTS**

**I. Professional Staff**

The following appointment has been approved for the 2017/2018 school year, with the effective date of January 2, 2018:

NAME	POSITION	LOCATION	STEP	CERT	SALARY	REPLACE/ NEW
Jorge, Ariana	ESL / ELA	KHS	I	BA	\$47,670 (prorated)	NEW

**2. 4<sup>th</sup> Prep Assignment**

The following 4<sup>th</sup> prep assignment has been approved for the 2017/2018 school year at the annual remuneration of \$6,840.00:

Staub, Amanda..... Latin

**3. Curriculum Writing (Revisions)**

The Board has approved the following to perform curriculum writing revisions for Grades 7 & 8 Science and Science Honors; remuneration at the hourly rate of \$38.00 in accordance with the 2016/17 K.E.A. Agreement, not more than 20 hours:

Brodsky, Jenny

**4. ESL Extended-Hours Tutoring Program**

The Board has approved 35 hours compensation for each of the following staff members for the ESL Extended-Hours Tutoring Program. Remuneration is in accordance with the 2016/2017 K.E.A. Agreement at the hourly rate of \$38.00; the program is funded by Title III monies:

Arriola, Mari	Liu, Lan
Kryshak-Baptista, Amy-Beth	Neno, Juliana
Goncalves, Vera	Oliveira-Pereira, Claudia

**5. Title I Parent Involvement Program**

The Board has approved 30 hours compensation for each of the following staff members for the Title I Parent Involvement Program. Remuneration is in accordance with the 2016/2017 K.E.A. Agreement at the hourly rate of \$38.00; the program is funded by Title I monies:

Arriola, Mari	Dyl, Melissa
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**6. ESL Parent Involvement Program**

The Board has approved 30 hours compensation for each of the following staff members for the ESL Parent Involvement Program. Remuneration is in accordance with the 2016/2017 K.E.A. Agreement at the hourly rate of \$38.00; the program is funded by Title I monies:

Kryshak-Baptista, Amy-Beth	Villacis, Lourdes
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**7. Treasurer of School Funds**

The Board has approved the assignment of the additional duty of reconciling the Payroll Account to Michael J. Lamprecht, Treasurer of School Funds, effective October 1, 2017, for an additional \$3,000.00 annually, prorated from October 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

**8. Full-Time Secretary assigned to Central Office**

The Board has approved the appointment of Karen Clifford to the position of Full-Time Secretary assigned to the Central Office, STEP I of the 2016/2017 K.E.O.P. Salary Guide, which is an annual salary of \$44,961 (prorated), effective November 13, 2017.

**9. Custodian**

The Board has approved the appointment of Joseph Ferrara to the position of Custodian (Night Shift), STEP I of the K.S.E.A. 2016/2017 Salary Guide, which is an annual salary of \$45,645, plus \$500 night differential, effective November 27, 2017.

**10. Payroll-Bookkeeper**

The Board has approved the appointment of Susan Wolenski to the position of Payroll-Bookkeeper, effective December 1, 2017. This is a lateral move with no change to Mrs. Wolenski's current base salary of \$61,057 (based on the 2016/17 K.E.O.P Agreement).

C. **SALARY REVISION**

The Board has approved the following revision to the salary of a newly-appointed teaching staff member based upon further review of previous experience:

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>From</u></b>	<b><u>To</u></b>	<b><u>Eff.</u></b>
Nair, Latha.....	Ph.D., STEP 4, \$66,620.....	Ph.D., STEP 5, \$67,820.....	12-22-17

D. **LEAVE(s) OF ABSENCE**

The following leave of absence requests have been granted:

<b>Name</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Family Leave</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Leave of Absence</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Return to Work</b>
Bifulco, Kaitlyn	Franklin	X	3/19 to 4/30/18	X	5/1 to 6/22/18	9/2018
Fiore, Andrea	Franklin	X	1/7 to 3/25/18			3/26/18
Kadriberg, Aziza	KHS	X	2/14 to 5/9/18	X	5/10 to 6/8/18	6/11/18
Melker, Marlaina	Frank/Schuy	X	9/5 to 1/26/17			1/29/18 *
Scher, Dana	Garf/Schuy	X	9/5/17 to 1/26/18			1/29/18 *

\* Revised return date

E. **SCHOOL-BASED THERAPY SERVICES**

The Board has approved the engagement of School-Based Therapy Services three (3) days per week to provide school psychology services during a staff member’s Family Leave of Absence.

F. **REVISION TO LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE ASSIGNMENT**

The previously-approved long-term substitute assignment for Gina Fuschetto, who is substituting for Dana Scher, School Social Worker, shall be reduced from three (3) days to two (2) days per week, effective 10-30-17.

G. **SUBSTITUTES**

I. **Additions to Annual Listing of Substitute Teachers**

The individuals listed below will be substituting in the Kearny Public Schools this year. These are in addition to those listed in previous Board reports:

Atwell, Kelly	Finnemore, Trevor	Shaffery, Beth
Fenyar, Geoffrey	Hafeez, Muhammad	

H. **AIDES**

I. **Appointments**

The following have been approved as substitute Aides at the remuneration of \$11.25 per hour. Effective date contingent upon Criminal History Review approval:

Alves De Sousa, Filipe	Johnson, Linda
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**2.     Resignations**

The following Aides have resigned their positions with the effective dates noted:

Agosto, Miranda.....11/1/17  
Chidichimo, Nancy .....11/13/17  
Drofiak, Eva.....11/1/17  
Fuino, Debra .....10/4/17  
Pace, Linda.....10/30/17

**3.     Salary Revision**

The Board has approved a revision to the hourly rate for Aide employee Marceline Pooler from \$14.50 to \$15.50, retroactive to September 1, 2017, based upon the completion of the Graduate Pilot Program; the retroactive payment will total \$225.50.

**I.     COACHES/ADVISORS**

**I.     2017/2018 Appointment**

The following Coaching appointment has been approved:

<u>COACH/ADVISOR</u>	<u>APPLICANT</u>	<u>SALARY</u>
Indoor Track-Assistant.....	Donovan, Karen.....	\$ 5,640

**2.     Paraprofessional Volunteers**

The Board has granted approval of the following individuals who have requested to volunteer coaching services, contingent upon DOE criminal history review:

Boys Basketball.....Norton, Joe  
Bowling.....Mosloskie, Robert  
Wrestling.....Matos, Miguel

**J.     EQUIVALENCY**

The Equivalency Board of Review has recommended granting the following equivalencies, effective September 1, 2017:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Equivalency</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Base Salary</u>
Hoehe, Patricia.....	MA.....	\$ 2,200.....	\$ 56,620
Savage, Jordan.....	MA+32.....	8,000.....	75,025

**K.     INTERNSHIP**

The Board has granted approval to Bianca Lesende, school psychology student, to perform her practicum under the supervision of Anthony Rosamilia, School Psychologist at Washington School.

**L.     COMPLETION OF 90-DAY PROBATIONARY PERIOD**

The Board has acknowledged for the record the successful completion of the 90-day probationary period for the following personnel:

McCarthy, Patricia.....(Full-Time) Secretary assigned to Central Office  
Model, Robert ..... P/T Computer Technician / Webmaster

**PART II – NON-PERSONNEL ISSUES**

The following resolutions, “A through D” and “G”, were moved by Mrs. Sherry, seconded by Mrs. Mc Donald and unanimously carried:

**A. OUTSIDE PLACEMENTS**

The following outside placements requested by the Director of Special Services have been approved:

Student No. 264369 to be placed at The Felician School for Exceptional Children at the annual tuition of \$57,075.19 (prorated), effective October 16, 2017.

Student No. 325665 to be placed at Summit Speech School at the annual tuition of \$60,900.00 (prorated), plus \$285.00 per diem transportation cost, effective November 6, 2017.

**B. ARTICULATION AGREEMENT – FARLEIGH DICKINSON UNIVERSITY**

The Board has granted approval of the articulation agreement between the Kearny School District and Farleigh Dickinson University to participate in the Middle College Program, which will provide college credits for the following courses being offered at Kearny High School, at the tuition cost of \$234.00 per 3-credit courses:

French 4	AP Calculus AB	AP Chemistry
AP Literature & Composition	AP Microeconomics	AP U.S. History
AP Statistics	AP Studio Art: 3-D Design	AP Studio Art: Drawing

**C. TRIP TO ITALY**

The Board has granted approval of a 2019 trip to Italy for (approximately) 25-30 KHS students, April 18 to April 25, 2019, under the supervision of Michele Cacciottolo, teacher of Italian at Kearny High School, along with the appropriate number of chaperones. There will be no cost to the Board and all Board policies will be met.

**D. BOARD POLICY**

The Board has adopted the following revised policies upon second reading:

**POLICY #**

2363	Pupil Use of Privately-Owned Technology
8550	Unpaid Meal Charges

**G. ACCEPTANCE OF MONTHLY HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, BULLYING REPORT**

The Board has accepted the HIB Report as prepared by the Student Assistance Coordinator for the month of October, 2017, in accordance with NJSA 18A:37-15 and Board Policy 5512.

The following resolutions, “E and F”, were moved by Mrs. Mc Donald and seconded by Mr. Zapata:

**E. PROFESSIONAL DAYS**

The Board has approved the listing of Professional Days, as well as reimbursement for travel and related expenses, where such travel and related expenses have been previously reviewed by the building principal/supervisor and the Chief School Administrator.

**F. FIELD TRIPS**

The Board has approved the listing of field trips for students and appropriate staff that are aligned to the Core Curriculum Content Standards and promote the delivery of instruction.

On roll call, the following vote was recorded: Mrs. Mc Donald, “aye”, Mrs. Sherry, “not voting”, Mr. Viscuso, “aye”, Mr. Zapata, “aye”, Mr. Granelli, “aye”.

There being four votes in the affirmative and one member “not voting”, the motion was carried.

**REPORT OF THE INTERIM BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY – Mr. Smith**

**PART I - FINANCE**

The following resolutions, “A through G”, were moved by Mrs. Mc Donald, seconded by Mrs. Sherry and unanimously carried:

**A. CASH RECEIPTS – OCTOBER, 2017**

The Kearny Board of Education hereby approves the following Report of Cash Receipts for the month of October, 2017:

10/2/2017	STATE OF NJ-CHAPTER 193	\$ 1,359.00
10/2/2017	STATE OF NJ-CHAPTER 192	89.00
10/5/2017	OPPENHEIMER-NOTE	15,000,000.00
10/5/2017	OPPENHEIMER-DIVIDEND	106,950.00
10/10/2017	STATE OF NJ-STATE AID	1,478,763.00
10/12/2017	STATE OF NJ-IDEA BASIC	225,023.00
10/13/2017	TOWN OF KEARNY	4,392,207.00
10/16/2017	PORT AUTHORITY NY/NJ	781,758.00
10/16/2017	STATE OF NJ-SEPT FICA	118,867.48
10/16/2017	STATE OF NJ-SEPT FICA	118,483.05
10/17/2017	COCA COLA	76.69
10/17/2017	USAC PAYMENT-ERATE	21,961.20
10/18/2017	STATE OF NJ-SBYSP 11/17	29,214.00
10/18/2017	STATE OF NJ-SBYSP 11/17	14,266.00
10/20/2017	STATE OF NJ-SEMI 1710	3,887.08
10/20/2017	STATE OF NJ-SEMI 1710	4,570.07
10/23/2017	STATE OF NJ-STATE AID	1,478,763.00
10/30/2017	MISC REVENUE	24,385.96
10/31/2017	STATE OF NJ-IDEA BASIC	143,821.00
10/31/2017	STATE OF NJ-CHAPTER 193	1,359.00
10/31/2017	STATE OF NJ-CHAPTER 192	89.00
10/31/2017	INVESTORS- INTEREST-N/P AGENCY,ETC	874.61
10/31/2017	INVESTORS-GENERAL OPERATING	3,480.37
10/31/2017	POMPTONIAN SALES/PAYFORIT	<u>52,232.50</u>
		\$ 24,002,480.01
10/31/2017	INTEREST-CAPITAL RESERVE	250.65
10/31/2017	INTEREST-CAPITAL PROJECT	74.74
10/31/2017	INTEREST- UNEMPLOYMENT FUND	<u>543.10</u>
	TOTAL	<b><u>\$ 24,003,348.50</u></b>

**B. APROVAL OF BUDGET TRANSFERS**

The Kearny Board of Education, based upon the recommendation of the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary, hereby approves the list of transfers as per the attached for the 2017/2018 school budget.

**C. REPORT OF THE INTERIM SECRETARY (A-148)**

The Kearny Board of Education hereby accepts the monthly Report of the Interim Secretary to the Board of Education for the month ending October 31, 2017 based upon the Interim Board Secretary's certification that no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures which, in total, exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(a). And be it further

Resolved: That for the record it be noted that after having reviewed the appropriations section of said report and also having consulted with the appropriate district officials, hereby certifies that no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(b), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations for the remainder of the 2017/2018 School Year.

**D. REPORT OF THE TREASURER OF SCHOOL FUNDS (A-149)**

The Kearny Board of Education hereby accepts the monthly Report of the Treasurer of School Funds to the Board of Education for the month ending October, 2017.

**E. INVESTMENTS – OCTOBER, 2017**

The Kearny Board of Education hereby confirms the action of the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary in having made investments through The Investors Bank during the month of October, 2017. And be it further

Resolved: That for the record it be noted that the interest earned on said investments amounted to \$4,680.37 for Investors Bank bringing the year-to-date interest to \$44,374.96.

**F. PAYMENT OF BILLS**

The Kearny Board of Education, based upon the representation of the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary that he has examined, audited, and certified in writing that the attached bill list is correct in the total amount of \$4,120,044.40 covering the period of 10/12/17 to 11/16/17, hereby orders same to be paid, in accordance with NJSA 18A:19-4.

**G. ATHLETIC OFFICIALS ACCOUNT BILLS**

The Kearny Board of Education, based upon the recommendation of the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary, hereby approves the bills paid through the Athletic Officials Account for the month of October, 2017, as per the attached listing for The Investors Bank totaling \$6,339.00.

**PART II – FACILITIES**

The following resolutions, “A through D”, were moved by Mrs. Mc Donald, seconded by Mr. Zapata and unanimously carried:

**A. Payment to Contractor – RE: “KEARNY HIGH SCHOOL AIRCRAFT NOISE ABATEMENT AND RENOVATION PROJECT”**

The Kearny Board of Education hereby authorizes the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary to issue a warrant payable to PAUL OTTO BUILDING COMPANY, in the amount of \$30,000.00 (a) in payment of Application Number 22.

For Informational Purposes

Original Contract Sum	\$ 3,282,000.00	
Net Change by Change Orders	<u>35,398.01</u>	
Contract Sum to Date	\$ 3,246,601.99	
Less: Previous Payments Approved	3,199,166.78	
Current Payment Due	<u>30,000.00</u>	(a)
Balance Due	<u>\$ 17,435.21</u>	

**B. Payment to Contractor – RE: “KEARNY HIGH SCHOOL AIRCRAFT NOISE ABATEMENT AND RENOVATION PROJECT”**

The Kearny Board of Education hereby authorizes the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary to issue a warrant payable to THE BENNETT COMPANY, in the amount of \$534,100.00 (a) in payment of Application Number 27-13.

For Informational Purposes

Original Contract Sum	\$ 26,800,000.00	
Net Change by Change Orders	<u>1,700,325.00</u>	
Contract Sum to Date	\$ 28,500,325.00	
Less: Previous Payments Approved	26,404,478.50	
Current Payment Due	<u>534,100.00</u>	(a)
Balance Due	<u>\$ 1,561,746.50</u>	



C. **Payment to Architect – RE: “KEARNY HIGH SCHOOL AIRCRAFT NOISE ABATEMENT AND RENOVATION PROJECT”**

The Kearny Board of Education hereby authorizes the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary to issue a warrant payable to DICARA RUBINO ARCHITECTS, in the amount of \$6,414.00 (a) in payment of Application Number 31.

For Informational Purposes

Original Contract Sum	\$ 795,000.00
Net Change by Change Orders	<u>24,285.68</u>
Contract Sum to Date	\$ 819,285.68
Less: Previous Payments Approved	521,274.00
Current Payment Due	<u>6,414.00</u> (a)
Balance Due	<u>\$ 291,597.68</u>

D. **REQUEST FOR PERMITS**

The following permit request has been granted:

ORGANIZATION	BUILDING LOCATION	DATE(S)	EVENT	TIME
Art of Dance	KHS Auditorium	May 19, 2018 (1 <sup>st</sup> choice) <b>or</b> June 9, 2018  <b>Rehearsal date:</b> May 12, 2018	Annual Dance Recital	10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.  Rehearsal: 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

**PART III – NON-PERSONNEL**

The following resolutions were moved by Mrs. Mc Donald, seconded by Mr. Zapata and unanimously carried:

A. **TEAM TRANSPORTATION – WINTER, 2017/2018**

The Kearny Board of Education hereby approves the action of the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary to issue a purchase order to Belair Transport, Inc., in the amount of \$53,700. . . . (54 Passenger School Bus . . . \$53,700) for the transportation of interscholastic participants to scheduled events, commencing October 31, 2017 and continuing through March 3, 2017. And be it further

Resolved: That bids were received and opened in the Board Office on November 14, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. in response to the advertisement for bids which appeared in the October 27, 2017 edition of the Jersey Journal.

B. **AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT 2017-2018 COMPREHENSIVE MAINTENANCE PLAN AND M-I**

Whereas, the Department of Education requires New Jersey school districts to submit a three-year maintenance plan documenting “required” maintenance activities for each of its public school facilities along with the annual maintenance budget worksheet (M-I) for each of its public school facilities, and

Whereas, the requirement maintenance activities as listed in the documents for the various school facilities of the Kearny School District are consistent with these requirements, and

Whereas, all past and planned activities are reasonable to keep school facilities open and safe for use or in their original condition and to keep their system warranties valid,

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Kearny School District hereby authorizes the Interim School Business Administrator to submit the 2017/2018 Comprehensive Maintenance Plan and M-I for the Kearny School District in compliance with Department of Education requirements.

## **REPORT OF THE BOARD ATTORNEY - Mr. Lindenfelser**

Mr. Lindenfelser stated that his report was covered in Closed Session.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Mc Donald suggested the Board construct policy to require Board members to contact the Superintendent if they are unable to attend a regular meeting in order to avoid the lack of a quorum.

## **OBSERVERS**

No observers.

## **MOTION RE: ADJOURNMENT**

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

## **MEETING ADJOURNED**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Interim Business Administrator/  
Board Secretary