

**Special Action Meeting: Contract Award
April 16, 2020**

The Board of Education of the Borough of Fair Lawn, 37-01 Fair Lawn Ave., Fair Lawn, New Jersey, held a **Special Action Meeting: Contract Award** via Zoom on **April 16, 2020**.

NOTE: *Be advised that the Board may recess into executive session at any time during the meeting.*

1. The Special Action Meeting of **April 16, 2020** was called to order at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom.

2. **Roll Call**

BOARD MEMBERS	Mr. Banta	Dr. Cohen	Mrs. Frenkel	Mr. Itkin	Ms. Quackenbush	Mr. Rosenberg	Mr. Santana	Mr. Spindel	Mr. Barbarulo
PRESENT	X	Left @ 8:00 p.m.	X	X	X	X	Arrived @ 7:32 p.m.	X	X
ABSENT									

OTHERS PRESENT	Mr. Norcia <i>Superintendent</i>	Dr. Lacatena <i>Asst. Super. Education</i>	Mrs. DeFranco <i>Asst. Super. Student Services</i>	Mrs. Panagia <i>Director, HR</i>	Ms. Bartley <i>BA/Bd. Sec'y</i>	Ms. Ratcliffe-Lee <i>Asst. BA</i>	Mrs. Wellinghorst <i>Communications</i>	Mr. Green <i>Board Att'y</i>
PRESENT	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
ABSENT							X	

3. **Sunshine Statement**

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of the public bodies at which any business affecting their interests are discussed or acted upon.

In accordance with the provisions of this act, the Fair Lawn Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, and place thereof distributed to the persons on the approved list, posted in the Board of Education Administrative Office and sent to The Bergen Record and The Star Ledger.

The announcement/posting for the **Special Action Meeting**, along with the date, place, and time thereof, was distributed on **April 10, 2020**.

The items to be discussed during the Closed Work Session (if needed), of **April 16, 2020, Special Action Meeting** may include personnel matters, student matters, legal matters, negotiations, and/or grievances, and tactics and techniques utilized in protecting public safety and property. The results of these discussions will be made public as soon as possible.

4. **Flag Salute**

5. Superintendent Report/Comments

- Mr. Norcia described how the meeting would be conducted since it is the Board's first Zoom meeting and public comments will be read via PollEverywhere and/or a text message where residents must state their name and address.
- An update was provided regarding the Governor's Executive Order that schools remain closed until May 15, 2020.
- Distance Learning Plan is still in effect and due to the high response of the survey, the District continues to make improvements and develop the plan. Mr. Norcia thanked the students and the parents for their cooperation.
- Pass/Fail grading for the fourth marking period was explained.
- Planning continues to be added to address the end of the year activities.
- Mr. Norcia asked Ms. Bartley to report on the financial update.
- The Financial Update included: Law S2337 passed which stipulates the payment to employees and contracted service providers; how the resolution concerning the delay of property tax payments would directly impact the School District's ability to meet its financial obligations; the District is closely monitoring the cash flow and, where it's able, it is reducing the outflow of cash, as well as, tracking expenses incurred as a result of the COVID-19 virus; application for FEMA reimbursement has been submitted and information about the amount of the CARES Act aid that each District will receive will be released in 10 days.

Public Comments on any Agenda Items

Public questions and comments were read by Mr. Norcia via text message where the fourth marking period grading was discussed; the District was thanked for continuing Care Plus; the possibility to make Zoom more robust; support of the resolution A-3902; cutting costs was addressed by the Board's attorney. The District is mandated to continue to pay vendors; the possibility to conduct more Zoom meetings for teachers and students.

Board Comments on any Agenda Items

Comments were made on the pass/fail grading system; concerns regarding resolution A-3902 and the impact it might have on the District and taxpayers; possibility to modify student attendance policy but the DOE has strict guidelines on student attendance toward the 180 days' requirement and the Board expressed appreciation for the First Responders, staff, students, and parents.

Information Items

Bids from the following companies were received, opened, and read via YouTube in Room #19 at the Edison School, 37-01 Fair Lawn Ave., Fair Lawn, NJ on Friday, March 27, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. for the office renovations at Thomas Jefferson Middle School.

Bidder	GPC, Inc.	Practical LLC	Molba Construction	DiCarolis Associates	GL Group, Inc.
Base Bid	\$748,000.00	\$1,168,000.00	\$836,400.00	\$785,000.00	\$862,500.00
Bidder	Northeastern Interior Services, LLC	Salazar & Associates	Walkill Group, Inc.	SMAC Corp.	Brahma Construction
Base Bid	\$804,000.00	\$1,098,000.00	\$947,000.00	\$844,000.00	\$826,000.00

Present at the Bid Opening

Company

Fair Lawn Board of Education
LAN Associates

Representative

Brooke Bartley
Steve Secora

The following **Finance** items are brought to the Board of Education for **Action**:

F1. Other Business

A. Contract Award for the Office Renovation at Thomas Jefferson Middle School

WHEREAS, the Fair Lawn Board of Education, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1, et seq., publicly advertised for sealed bids for office renovation at Thomas Jefferson Middle School (the “Project”);

WHEREAS, in accordance with that advertisement, ten (10) bids were received, publicly opened and read aloud at the Board offices on Friday, March 27, 2020;

WHEREAS, GPC, Inc. submitted a bid for the office renovation at Thomas Jefferson Middle School of \$748,000 to be provided April 17, 2020 through September 1, 2020.

WHEREAS, there are no material defects in GPC, Inc. bid and it is, therefore, the lowest responsible and responsive bidder for the Project; **and**

WHEREAS, the Board of Education, at this time, wishes to award the office renovation at Thomas Jefferson Middle School contract for April 17, 2020 through September 1, 2020 to GPC, Inc.;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Education, that the contract for the office renovation at Thomas Jefferson Middle School for April 17, 2020 through September 1, 2020 is hereby awarded to GPC, Inc., 20 East Willow Street, Millburn, NJ 07452, in the total amount estimated not to exceed \$748,000 subject to the terms and conditions of a contractual agreement by Board’s counsel, which the Board President and Secretary are authorized to execute on behalf of the Board.

B. Opposing Delay in Transmission of Quarterly Property Tax Revenue to School Districts

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 3902, currently pending in the State Legislature, would authorize the Department of Community Affairs to permit municipalities to delay the quarterly transmission of property tax revenues to school districts during gubernatorial-declared emergencies; **and**

WHEREAS, New Jersey’s public schools are highly dependent on property tax revenue to support education programs; **and**

WHEREAS, on average, local property taxes constitute close to 60% of public school revenue, with the percentage even greater in a significant number of districts; **and**

WHEREAS, a delay in payments from municipalities would result in a financial crisis for school districts, seriously disrupting the educational process—and bringing it to a halt; **and**

WHEREAS, although public school buildings are closed during the current health emergency, the education of our students is taking place through remote learning and home instruction; **and**

WHEREAS, continued timely transmission of school property taxes is critical for the education process to continue without interruption; **and**

WHEREAS, even though municipalities are designated as the authorities to collect property taxes, these taxes are levied for specific purposes—e.g., municipal, school, county, fire district—and these obligations must continue to be met; **and**

WHEREAS, as currently written, A-3902, which is intended to ease a financial burden on municipalities, would place a severe strain on school districts and the students and families that they serve; **and**

WHEREAS, the Fair Lawn Board of Education recognizes the impact of the current public health emergency on the state and local governments, as well as local school districts, but believes this legislation would worsen the situation for our communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fair Lawn Board of Education urges the State Senate and the Governor to oppose A-3902; **AND BE IT FURTHER**

RESOLVED, that this resolution be delivered to Governor Phil Murphy, State Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney, Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin; and the 38 Legislative District’s representatives in the state Senate and General Assembly; **AND BE IT FURTHER**

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to the New Jersey School Boards Association.

Motion By Mrs. Frenkel **Seconded By** Mr. Banta to approve Resolution F1 as listed above.

BOARD MEMBER	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	RESOLUTION #
Mr. Banta	X			
Dr. Cohen				Absent at the time of the vote
Mrs. Frenkel	X			
Mr. Itkin	X			
Ms. Quackenbush	X			
Mr. Rosenberg	X			
Mr. Santana	X			
Mr. Spindel	X			
Mr. Barbarulo	X			

Public Comments for any New Business

No Comments

Board Comments for any New Business

As per Board attorney, there should not be any new business conducted in a special action meeting. Moving forward special action meetings will not have comments for any new business.

Motion for Adjournment

Motion By Mrs. Frenkel Seconded By Mr. Rosenberg that the **April 16, 2020, Special Action Meeting: Contract Award** be adjourned.

All Members voted in the affirmative.

The Special Action Meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Brooke Bartley
Business Administrator/Board Secretary