

CRESSKILL BOARD OF EDUCATION  
**Regular Meeting, March 19, 2020**  
Cresskill Borough Hall, 7:00 PM

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting of the Cresskill Board of Education was held on Thursday, March 19, 2020 at Cresskill Borough Hall. 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 (via Zoom)  
Trustee Amy Cusick (via Zoom)  
Trustee Michael DePalo  
Trustee Eugene Gorfin (via Zoom)  
Trustee Dionna Griffin (via Zoom)  
Trustee Mary Klein (via Zoom)  
Vice President Stephen Moldt (via Zoom) (arrived 7:23pm)  
Trustee Raffi Odabashian (via Zoom)  
President Denise Villani

**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 ensure 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 the provisions of the act, The Cresskill Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting taking place in the Cresskill Borough Hall 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.”*

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**March 30** - CBOE Regular Meeting, CMS/CHS Media Center, 7:00 PM  
**April 6 - 9** - Spring Recess, School Closed  
**April 10** - Good Friday, School Closed  
**April 13** - CBOE Regular Meeting, CMS/CHS Media Center, 7:00 PM

**CONSENT AGENDA**

A. Motion to Introduce Consent Agenda

On a motion by Trustee DePalo, seconded by Trustee Gorfin and carried, the Board approved introduction of the Consent Agenda.

*CBOE March 19, 2020 Regular Meeting MINUTES*

Personnel: 1 THROUGH 3  
Educational Planning: 1 THROUGH 12  
Finance: 1 THROUGH 6

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

Trustee Cummings asked about the staff being approved for home instruction tutoring. Mr. Burke explained the tutoring is required as per the IEP.

Trustee Klein asked about Finance #1, pricing agreement with NJ Tech Edge. Ms. Delasandro and President Villani explained it is another avenue for the district to make technology purchases without the need to bid publicly.

Trustee Gorfin asked about Personnel #1 and if Mr. Doto would still be paid if school does not reopen this year. Mr. Burke responded it is required based on the association contract.

Trustee Gorfin asked about field trips and the proposal from DiCara Rubino. Mr. Burke explained field trips have cancelled or postponed at this time and we are adding the basement now because our needs and classroom arrangements have changed. It was originally intended to just be storage. The board further discussed the basement renovation, whether we should wait, considering the fact that the referendum funds have limited uses.

Trustee Cummings asked about Finance #5 and if we are going to continue to pay for bussing during school closures. Mr. Burke explained he had a lengthy conversation with the Region V Member Superintendents. During that conversation it was relayed to him we need to pay the contracts in full or cancel them. If we cancelled them and school reopened, we would need to re-bid all bus contracts. Based on that, the member superintendents agreed to pay the contracts. The board continued to discuss and decided to table the resolution until the next meeting.

Trustee Klein asked about the revised sidebar agreement (Educational Planning #7). Mr. Burke responded it is being reapproved due to an error on the union's side on the initial sidebar.

Trustee Gorfin commented he is not in favor of the 2% tax levy increase considering the current pandemic. He wants to have a zero tax levy increase. Trustee Cummings replied that we need the funds to complete the plan for EHB addition and hiring new staff. Vice President Moldt understands Trustee Gorfin's concerns but he is worried about long term repercussions of a 0% tax levy increase. Trustee Griffin commented it could take a long time to recover if we do not raise taxes now. Trustee Klein agreed with Trustee Gorfin that she does not support the tax levy increase. The board further discussed preliminary budget.

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 was no public comment.

D. Close public participation

E. ROLL CALL VOTE - CONSENT AGENDA

Finance - Resolution #5 was tabled.

	<b><u>ROLL CALL VOTE</u></b>			
	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Trustee Cummings	✓			
Trustee Cusick	✓			
Trustee DePalo	✓			
Trustee Gorfin	✓	Finance #3		
Trustee Griffin	✓			
Trustee Klein	✓	Finance #3		
Vice President Moldt	✓			
Trustee Odabashian	✓	Finance #3		
President Villani	✓			

**BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

President Villani wished everyone to stay safe and healthy.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Mr. Burke stated he has received a lot of positive response from our online remote learning program. However, special education and providing additional special education services remotely is an ongoing situation we are working to improve. The teachers are doing an amazing job and the Principal’s videos each day are very helpful and positive to the community. We have distributed 18 Chromebooks so far to district students.

**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.

There was no public comment.

**TRUSTEE COMMENT**

Trustee Klein asked if we are doing anything for students who receive free and reduced lunches. Ms. Delasandro responded that we consulted with the board attorney and has since sent checks to the eligible families equal to what they would pay for lunch.

Trustee Gorfin asked about accommodations for seniors and graduation amid the school closures, if staff are doing any live virtual instruction and expressed his concern about mental health of students. Mr. Burke replied we have not made any formal announcement on seniors and graduation because we have not received guidance from the State yet. He also explained we are having staff do interactive learning as much as possible but there has been concerns raised by staff about using live interactive web-based programs. He will continue to share information with the community as soon as he is made aware.

The board further discussed the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects on the schools. Trustee Cusick noted the EHB Gala has been postponed to June 9<sup>th</sup> and the auction has been put online.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Hearing no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 8:19pm on the motion of Trustee Griffin, seconded by Trustee Moldt, and approved by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

*Dawn Delasandro*

Dawn Delasandro  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

**CRESSKILL BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
CRESSKILL, NEW JERSEY

**CONSENT AGENDA**  
REGULAR MEETING  
March 19, 2020

**PERSONNEL**

1. Approval - Overage of one physical education class for Michael Doto, CHS, \$2,500, for marking period 4 effective 04/03/20 - 06/23/20
2. Approval - Appointment Michelle Gentile, medical leave replacement, CHS, Math Department, at a per diem rate of \$218.99, effective 02/05/2020, for the length of absence for the 2019-2020 school year
3. Approval - Appointment of Thomas Schillaci, Buildings and Grounds Supervisor, \$100,000/year, effective 07/01/2020, pending criminal history clearance and pre-employment verification, for the 2020-2021 school year

**EDUCATIONAL PLANNING**

1. Approval - Conferences/Workshops/Travel
2. Approval - Field Trips for 2019-2020
3. Approval - Psychiatric evaluation, Dr. Nancy Tancer, 1 visit, \$650 on 03/15/2020
4. Approval - Psychiatric evaluation, Dr. Nancy Tancer, 1 visit, \$650 on 03/15/2020
5. Approval - Psychiatric evaluation, Dr. Nancy Tancer, 1 visit, \$650 on 03/15/2020
6. Approval - Psychiatric evaluation, Dr. Nancy Tancer, 1 visit, \$650 on 03/15/2020
7. Approval - Revised Sidebar agreement with CBOE and CEA
8. Approval - Home Instruction for through Educere, three (3) classes, \$748.50, effective 02/28/20 for duration of absence
9. Approval - Change of Home Instruction tutor to John Flaim, 2.5 hours/week, 33.84/hour, effective 03/09/2020 through 03/27/2020
10. Approval - Board of Education affirms the Superintendent's recommendation of the HIB (Harassment, Intimidation & Bullying) report dated 01/17/2020
11. Approval - History tutoring, with Kate Rovito, CMS, eight (8) hours, 2 hrs./week for four (4) weeks, effective 03/09/2020
12. Approval - Care Plus, mental health release, \$200, on 03/16/2020

**FINANCE**

1. Approval - NJEdge Cooperative Pricing Agreement
2. Approval - DiCarajRubino Architects for \$48,000 to provide services for the renovation of the EHB basement
3. Approval - 2020-2021 tentative school budget for submission to Interim Executive County Superintendent
4. Approval - Maximum travel and related expenditure
5. Approval - TABLED: Payment for Transportation to Region V during COVID-19 Shutdown
6. Approval - Business Administrator to pay district bills and authorize payroll between BOE meetings

**PERSONNEL:**

1. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the overage of one Physical Education class for **Michael Doto**, Cresskill High School, \$2,500, for marking period 4 effective April 3, 2020 through June 23, 2020.
2. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of **Michelle Gentile**, medical leave replacement, Cresskill High School, Math Department, at a per diem rate of \$218.99 effective February 5, 2020, for the length of absence for the 2019-2020 school year.
3. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of **Thomas Schillaci**, Buildings and Grounds Supervisor, District, \$100,000/year, effective July 1, 2020, pending criminal history review and pre-employment verification, for the 2020-2021 school year.

**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:** Nicholas Calandrino  
**Date(s):** March 5 & 6, 2020  
**Conference:** NJSIAA Wrestling State Tournament  
**Location:** Boardwalk Hall  
Atlantic City, NJ  
**Registration Fee:** \$0  
**Mileage:** as per GSA guidelines  
**Lodging & meals:** as per GSA guidelines  
**Other:** as per GSA guidelines

**Name:** Alina Duran  
**Date(s):** March 20, 2020 (PM)  
**Conference:** Northern NJ AP Computer Science Consortium  
Spring 2020 Meeting  
**Location:** Parsippany Hills High School  
Morris Plains, NJ  
**Registration Fee:** \$0  
**Mileage:** as per GSA guidelines

**Name:** Alexandra Roberts  
**Date(s):** April 3, 2020

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**Conference:** College Visit Vanderbilt University  
**Location:** Nashville, TN  
**Registration Fee:** \$0  
**Mileage:** \$0

**Name:** Kevin Cardenas  
**Date(s):** May 4, 2020  
**Conference:** Code.org 2020 Facilitator Summit  
**Location:** San Antonio, Texas  
**Registration Fee:** \$0  
**Mileage:** \$0

**Name:** Kristen Sellix  
**Date(s):** May 13, 2020  
**Conference:** NJ Changing the ADHD Brain: Moving Beyond Medication  
**Location:** Sheraton Parsippany Hotel  
Parsippany, NJ  
**Registration Fee:** \$0  
**Mileage:** as per GSA guidelines

**Name:** Michelle Blanco  
**Date(s):** May, 2020  
**Conference:** How to Lead a Life-Changing College Essay Workshop Online Webinar  
**Registration Fee:** \$497

2. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the attached list of **Field Trips** for the 2019-2020 school year.
3. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, in accordance with the student's IEP for the 2019-2020 school year approve the following service for student **#1599848643**, Psychiatric evaluation, **Dr. Nancy Tancer**, 1 visit, \$650 on March 15, 2020.
4. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, in accordance with the student's IEP for the 2019-2020 school year approve the following service for student **#7146290924**, Psychiatric evaluation, **Dr. Nancy Tancer**, 1 visit, \$650, on March 15, 2020.
5. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, in accordance with the student's IEP for the 2019-2020 school year approve the following service for student **#8019128812**, Psychiatric evaluation, **Dr. Nancy Tancer**, 1 visit, \$650, on March 15, 2020.
6. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, in accordance with the student's IEP for the 2019-2020 school year approve the following service for student **#1171955377**, Psychiatric evaluation, **Dr. Nancy Tancer**, 1 visit, \$650, on March 15, 2020.

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7. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the revised Sidebar Agreement between Cresskill Board of Education and Cresskill Education Association for the period of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2022. (Attachment EP-1)
8. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Home Instruction for student **#6468983398**, through Educere, three (3) classes, \$748.50, effective February 28, 2020 for duration of absence.
9. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, in accordance with the student's IEP for the 2019-2020 school year approve the following service for student **#6234031875**, Home Instruction with a change in teachers, from Yunah Baek to **John Flaim**, 2.5 hours/week, \$33.84/hour, effective March 9, 2020 through March 27, 2020.
10. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education affirm the Superintendent's recommendation of the HIB (Harassment, Intimidation & Bullying) report dated January 17, 2020.
11. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve History tutoring for student **#9965144787**, with **Kate Rovito**, Cresskill Middle School teacher, eight (8) hours, 2 hrs./week for four (4) weeks, effective March 9, 2020.
12. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, in accordance with the student's IEP for the 2019-2020 school year approve the following service for student **#4706074598**, Care Plus, mental health release, \$200, on March 16, 2020.

**FINANCE:**

1. **Approval of NJEdge Cooperative Pricing Agreement and Participation in the Edge Market Cooperative Pricing System**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-11, et seq. authorizes two or more contracting units to establish a Cooperative Pricing System for the provision and performance of goods and services, and to enter into Cooperative Pricing Agreements for its administration; and **WHEREAS**, NJEdge.Net, Inc. ("NJEdge"), hereinafter referred to as the "Lead Agency" has offered voluntary participation in a Cooperative Pricing System known as the "Edge Market Cooperative" for the purchase of goods and services; and **WHEREAS**, on March 16, 2020, the governing body of Cresskill Board of Education, situated in the County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, duly considered participation in a Cooperative Pricing System for the provision and performance of goods and services; and **WHEREAS**, Cresskill Board of Education within the County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, desires to participate in the Edge Market Cooperative; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** as follows:

**TITLE**

This **RESOLUTION** shall be known and may be cited as the Cooperative Pricing Resolution of the Cresskill Board of Education.

**AUTHORITY**



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Pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-11, et seq., Dawn Delasandro, School Business Administrator of the Cresskill Board of Education, on behalf of the Cresskill Board of Education, is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency.

**CONTRACTING UNIT**

This Lead Agency shall be responsible for complying with the provisions of the Public School Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1, et seq., and all other provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey.

**EFFECTIVE DATES**

March 19, 2020 – March 19, 2024

- 2. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve **DiCarajRubino Architects** to provide services for the renovation of the basement at EHB at a cost of **\$48,000** plus reimbursable expenses.
  
- 3. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following preliminary budget for the 2020-2021 school year and authorizes the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to submit the 2020/2021 preliminary budget to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, included in budget line 630, Budgeted Withdrawal from Maintenance Reserve is \$50,000 for required maintenance of various repairs throughout the district. The district intends to utilize these funds for maintenance expenditures from account 11-000-261-420.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the General Fund tax levy of \$28,247,166 is approved to support General Current Expenses and \$1,980,602 is approved to support Repayment of Debt for the ensuing school year 2020-2021; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the total budget for the ensuing school year 2020-2021 is \$35,451,606 which includes Special Revenue and Debt Service as follows:

<u>FUND</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>LOCAL TAX LEVY</u>
Total General Fund:	\$32,681,389	\$28,247,166
Total Special Revenue Fund:	\$637,751	\$0.00
Total Debt Service Fund:	\$2,132,466	\$1,980,602
TOTAL:	\$35,451,606	\$30,227,768



**4. Approval of Maximum Travel and Related Expenditure**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12, in each pre-budget year, the Cresskill Board of Education is required to establish a maximum travel expenditure amount for the budget year which may not be exceeded; and **WHEREAS**, the Board of Education has determined that the maximum travel expenditure amount includes all travel that is supported by State and local funds; and **WHEREAS**, the Board of Education has previously established a maximum amount for the pre-budget year 2019-2020 as \$80,000; and **WHEREAS**, the Board of Education has expended \$9,365 of the maximum amount for the pre-budget year to date; and

**RESOLVED**, that the Cresskill Board of Education hereby establishes the maximum travel expenditure amount for the 2020-2021 school year as \$80,000

**5. BOARD AGREED TO TABLE THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION. IT WAS NOT INCLUDED IN ROLL CALL VOTE.**

**Approval of Payment for Transportation to Region V during COVID-19 Shutdown**

**WHEREAS**, the Cresskill Board of Education (“the Board”) and Region V Council for Special Education (“Contractor”) are parties to a transportation agreement (“Agreement”); and **WHEREAS**, the Agreement provides that the Contractor shall be paid for transportation services performed; and **WHEREAS**, due to COVID-19, the Cresskill Public School District has remained closed as of March 16, 2020, and **WHEREAS**, as a result, transportation services have discontinued; and **WHEREAS**, in consideration for not terminating the Agreement with the Contractor since transportation services will no longer be necessary while schools are closed, the Board will agree to continue payment to the Contractor through the duration of the term of Agreement; and **WHEREAS**, the Board’s payment obligation shall be contingent upon the Contractor furnishing, on a monthly basis, copies of certified payroll records for each driver who was assigned to a route for the Board as of March 13, 2020, the last day student transportation services were provided prior to schools officially closing, establishing that the driver’s salary was paid by the Contractor; **WHEREAS**, the parties have amended the terms of the Agreement to memorialize and clarify the respective responsibilities and obligations of the parties as set forth above.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board hereby approves the Addendum reflecting the parties obligations above, which is attached hereto.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board President and the Board Secretary are hereby authorized to execute the attached Addendum to the Agreement and any other documents necessary to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

**6. Resolved**, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the Business Administrator to pay district bills and authorize payroll between Board of Education meetings.