

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
March 19, 2014 7:30 p.m.**

**I. CALL TO ORDER – OPENING STATEMENT**

This meeting is called to order at 7:40 p.m. with the following opening statement read by Dr. Gamble:

“I would like to announce and have placed in the minutes that adequate notice of this meeting of the Califon Board of Education has been provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Proper notice of this Regular Meeting was provided in the notice dated May 1, 2013. Said notice was posted at the office of the Califon School, mailed to the Hunterdon County Democrat, the Hunterdon Review and The Express Times. A copy of this notice has also been posted on the public bulletin board in the Municipal Building and filed with the Borough Clerk. The agenda of this meeting has been posted at the Califon School and on the district’s website.

**II. THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

All present participated in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Mr. Jim Bell  
Ms. Claudia Gangemi  
Mr. Matthew Ramarge  
Mr. Kim Schundler (enters meeting at 8:00 pm)  
Mr. Alfred Turello (enters meeting at 7:45 pm)

Absent: none

Also Present: Dr. James Gamble, Interim Superintendent  
Miss Karen Perdomo, BA/BS

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

To be presented at the April meeting.

**V. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

- \*1. Lebanon Township School District School Choice Application for 2014-2015.

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- \*2. Meeting Schedule North Hunterdon/Voorhees H.S. District
- \*3. Letter from DOE/Hunterdon County Office re: budget review
- \*4. Letter from DOE/Hunterdon County Office re: review of Interim Superintendent contract for 2014-2015
- \*5. Letter of Resignation from Jennifer Torcivia

**VI. INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- \*1. Review of District Goals-

Perception of school district – Dr. Gamble said press releases are ongoing.

Communications – Dr. Gamble said that the parent advisory group will meet on March 25<sup>th</sup>.

Student Achievement – Dr. Gamble said that in Math, the MS teachers were integrating core academy resources in the classroom and students were enjoying that. He also said this will help in preparation for PARCC.

- \*2. Presentation of the Winter-Fall Grant Awards

Mr. Patton introduced the Winter-Fall grant awards, and thanked Mrs. Winters for the WinterFall grant.

Mrs. Winters said she had received a lot of thank you notes and that she was really happy to be able to help the Califon school district. She said the applications were very interesting and that she was happy to give the award to Mr. Patton, Dr. Gamble, and Ms. Wiesel for the Junior Great Books Program.

Dr. Gamble thanked Mrs. Winters.

Mr. Turello thanked Mrs. Winters.

3. Assessment - Dr. Gamble presented a PowerPoint.

**VII. PUBLIC COMMENT** (resolutions only; time limits: 20 min. total; 3 min. /person)  
At this time, comment is invited on any matter relating to the resolutions on tonight's agenda.

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Anyone wishing to speak before the board concerning these resolutions may do so during this public commentary portion of the agenda. The presenter shall give his/her name and address and make the presentation as brief as possible. Unless an extension of time is given, each speaker shall be limited to 3 minutes.

Speakers may offer suggestions or express their concerns. However, in public session, the board will not discuss concerns about individual students or staff members. Other, more appropriate, channels are available for expressing concerns about individual students or staff members.

The Board President may terminate the remarks of any individual, when they do not adhere to the rules established above.

Ms. Weiss wished Jennifer Torcivia well.

Mr. Turello wished Jennifer Torcivia well in her future endeavors.

**VIII. \*BOARD SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT**

After review of the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports for the month of **January 2014** based upon consultation with the Board Secretary, the Board of Education of the Borough of Califon has ascertained, to the best of our knowledge and ability, with the information provided, that no major account has been over-expended, that no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year, and hereby certifies the district's financial plan as approved is being followed as revealed in the financial reports.

**IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Matters listed within the consent agenda designated by \*( **including Board Secretary and Treasurer Report**) has been referred to members of the Board

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of Education and/or its standing committees, for reading and study and will be enacted with one motion. The Personnel items on the consent agenda are recommended by the Interim Superintendent. If separate discussion is desired, the item may be removed from the consent agenda by Board action.

***A. Finance/Facilities/Transportation/Personnel***

***Finance***

A motion was made by Ms. Gangemi and seconded by Mr. Schundler to approve all of the following. The motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.

February/March Bills List

- \*1. Motion to approve the payment of invoices from check number 20752 to check number 20811, checks 22814, 31514, and non checks N1138 – N1139, in the amount of \$277,145.14.

Medicaid Initiative

- \*2. Motion to approve a request for a waiver of compliance with respect to the district's participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3 for the 2014-2015 School Year as the district will have fewer than forty (40) Medicaid eligible classified students.

2014-2015 Tentative Budget Presentation

- \*3. As recommended by the Interim Superintendent, motion to approve the 2014-2015 Tentative School Budget.

Dr. Gamble presented a Power Point.

Mr. Bell asked that if we can get corporate money what the procedure was.

Dr. Gamble said the Grant Committee will learn that on the webinars. He also said they just finished the third one.

Mr. Bell asked that if someone had any grant ideas who they get sent to.

Dr. Gamble said they get sent to the administration.

Mr. Bell asked how flexible Rutgers was, and if we got a grant if we can fund it with it.

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Dr. Gamble said Rutgers was very flexible. He also said if we get additional funds we can fund the program with them.

Mr. Bell asked about Federal aid.

Dr. Gamble said he didn't know the rationale behind it but that it fluctuated every year.

Paving Project

\*4. As recommended by the Interim Superintendent, motion to approve the transfer of funds in the amount of \$17,075 from the capital reserve to pay for the paving, creation of additional parking, and reinforcement of the base of the dumpster area by Laymans Contracting, as approved at the December 17, 2013 Board meeting.

\*5. Adoption of the 2014-2015 Tentative Budget:

Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement 2014-2015

WHEREAS, the Califon Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq. requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board; and

WHEREAS, travel and related expenses not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq., but deemed by the Board of Education to be necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves all travel not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq., as being necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.2(b), to a maximum expenditure of \$4,965 for all staff and board members.

BE IT RESOLVED that the tentative budget be approved for the 2014-2015 School Year using the 2014-2015 state aid figures and the Secretary to the Board of Education be authorized to

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submit the following tentative budget to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval in accordance with the statutory deadline:

	<b><u>GENERAL FUND</u></b>	<b><u>SPECIAL REVENUES</u></b>	<b><u>DEBT SERVICE</u></b>	<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>
<b>2014-15</b>				
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	2,379,710	44,475	170,285	2,594,470
<b>Less: Anticipated Revenues</b>	<u>321,476</u>	<u>44,475</u>	<u>43,645</u>	<u>409,596</u>
<b>Taxes to be Raised</b>	<u>2,058,234</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>126,640</u>	<u>2,184,874</u>

And to advertise said tentative budget in the Courier News in accordance with the form suggested by the State Department of Education and according to law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a public hearing be held at the Califon Elementary School, New Jersey on April 30, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the budget for the 2014-2015 School Year.

***Facilities***

A motion was made by Mr. Bell and seconded by Mr. Ramarge to approve all of the following. The motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.

**School Supplies Gift**

- \*1. Motion to approve the donation of various classroom supplies from Ericsson.

***Transportation (none)***

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***Personnel:***

A motion was made by Mr. Ramarge and seconded by Ms. Gangemi to approve all of the following. The motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.

Summer Custodian

\*1. Motion to approve the summer staff below:

Linda Fox	Custodian Helper	07/07-08/31, 2014	40 Hours per Week \$10.00 per hour
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Development/Travel

\*2. Motion to approve the following staff development/travel:

I. Maginnis	Foreign Language Educators of NJ Somerset, NJ	3/14-15/14	\$145.00
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Baseball Coach

\*3. Motion to approve the extra-curricular appointment of William Mrozek as Baseball Coach for the 2013-2014 school year at a flat amount of \$1,400.

Mr. Bell asked about rate for the baseball coach.

Mr. Turello said it was a stipend that was on the budget from last year.

Teacher Resignation

\*4. Motion to accept a letter of resignation from Jennifer Torcivia.

Mr. Turello thanked Ms. Torcivia and wished her the best on her future endeavors.

***B. Curriculum and Instruction***

Health Report

\*1. Motion to approve the attached Health Report for February 2014.

Field Trips

\*2. Motion to approve the following field trips.

Reading Olympics	5 <sup>th</sup> /6 <sup>th</sup> grades	04/08/14	3:30PM – 9:30PM
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Holland Township School

Cost to Board: \$295.00

- \*3. Destination Imagination State Competition 03/29/2014 7:00AM – 9:30PM  
Ridge High School Basking Ridge, NJ Cost to Student = \$65 activity fee  
Total Cost: \$1,925 (registration, supplies, transportation). \$845 paid to date (reg)

Mr. Ramarge asked how many teams we anticipated.

Dr. Gamble said four (4) teams.

Ms. Weiss said she had a group of 5th and 6th graders and that many went to nationals last year. She also said she had two (2) groups of 3rd and 4<sup>th</sup> graders, twenty one (21) kids total.

***C. Policy***

- Policy book update
- First reading of a new Board Policy, File Code: 5141.1, Accidents.
- First reading of a new Board Policy, File Code: 5141.8, Prevention and Treatment of Sports Related Concussion and Head Injury

Mr. Bell drafted new board policies from the School Board and will forward the documents. He also said the State passed a special education law and there might be a possible policy to assess severe learning issues.

***D. Communications (none)***

Ms. Gangemi said that Mr. Patton put awesome guidelines for the creation of the wall of fame.

She also said she e-mailed the parents but haven't received any responses yet.

**X. OLD BUSINESS-**

Mr. Bell asked if the Safety Committee met to discuss the parking bumper. He said he will forward the information to Mr. Patton.

**XI. NEW BUSINESS**



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\*1. Discussion of the 2014-2015 School Calendar

Dr. Gamble said winter recess is longer than it needed to be. He also said he would like to add four (4) delay openings for in-service to take place in the morning.

\*2. Motion to approve amending the 2014-2013 school calendar by designating April 24 and April 25 as school days. It is further moved that if additional school closing days are needed, the makeup days will be April 23 and April 22 working backward. If more than two additional school closing days are needed the make-up days will be either weekends and/or June 23 moving forward to June 30.

The motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.

**XII. PUBLIC COMMENT - None**

**(all school-related topics; time limits: 30 min. total; 3 min. /person)**

At this time, comment is invited on any matter relating to the school district.

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**XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Mr. Ramarge, seconded by Ms. Bell, and carried on a unanimous voice vote to approve the following resolution:

Motion to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Section 6 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 (R.S. 10:4-13), permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting or portion of a meeting of this public body in certain circumstances and

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WHEREAS, the Board must consider (see check below), which is/are exempt from public discussion pursuant to the Act;

- 1. Matter which by express provision of law is rendered confidential
- 2. Release of information which would impair receipt of federal funds
- 3. Individual Privacy/ Student Matters
- 4. Collective Bargaining/Negotiations
- 5. Real estate matters
- 6. Disclosure could impair public safety
- 7. Pending/Anticipated Litigation
- 8. Terms and conditions of employment
- 9. Deliberations involving imposition of specific civil penalty.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education adjourn to executive session at 9:15 p.m. to discuss the above-mentioned matters to the exclusion of all others. Matters discussed may or may not be made public this evening. Resulting action may or may not be taken following re-entry into regular session

**XIV. RECONVENE**

The Board reconvened into General Session at 10:22PM.

**XV. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Mr. Ramarge and seconded by Mr. Bell to adjourn at 10:22PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Perdomo