

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
September 16, 2015 7:30 p.m.**

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

This meeting is called to order at 7:34 p.m. with the following opening statement read by Vice-President Gangemi:

“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 11, 2015. 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. Robert Beers  
Mr. James Bell  
Mrs. Claudia Gangemi  
Mr. Matthew Ramarge (arrived 7:41 pm)

Member Absent: Dr. Jevan Furmanski

Also Present: Mr. Jason Kornegay, Superintendent  
Mr. Thomas Johnston, Board Secretary

Members of the Public

**\*IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. A motion was made by Mr. Beers and seconded by Mr. Bell to approve the following minutes. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

August 26, 2015 Regular Session  
August 26, 2015 Executive Session

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The approval of the minutes for the August 12, 2015 Work Session were tabled until the October meeting.

**\*V. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Kornegay presented the letter that was communicated to parents regarding the lock out. He reviewed the situation. Mrs. Gangemi asked for clarification of the procedures. Mr. Kornegay pointed out that the time period was short, and that the prosecutor's office controls the flow of information.

**\*VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

\*1. HIB Report – nothing to report this month

\*2. Superintendent Update

\*A. Facilities

Mr. Kornegay stated the wireless system has been completed and is functioning well. He has asked the head custodian, Mr. Weber, to get quotes for repair of the front steps at the main doors. The blue stone is lifting and chipping and is becoming a tripping hazard. Mr. Ramarge asked about remedy options. Mr. Kornegay said as soon as quotes come in, he will forward the information to the Board. Mr. Bell mentioned handicapped access.

\*B. Personnel

Mr. Kornegay discussed the contract with the Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission for speech services for 2015-2016. He reviewed the efforts to find a part-time special education teacher. He added that he and Mr. Patton have begun teacher evaluations.

\*C. Curriculum and Instruction

Mr. Kornegay said the teachers who completed the curriculum templates will conduct staff training on September 22. He added the county educational specialist is very pleased with the process that is in place. Mr. Kornegay reviewed the progress of the Go Math implementation and

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training. He added that one of the staff will be in training for Problem Based Learning to be held in Lebanon Township.

**\*D. Technology**

Mr. Kornegay discussed Chromebooks. Mr. Senn was able to get a quote for the purchase. The goal is to take care of grades five thru eight this year, starting with grades seven and eight. Mr. Beers asked if parents would pay for insurance. Mr. Kornegay replied he will provide all details in time, but that parents would sign an agreement of responsibility. Mr. Kornegay added that staff training on Google Apps will begin, and the skill assessment completed by the end of the month.

**\*E. Special Education**

Mr. Kornegay recommended investing in training for Mr. Blondina, the new special education teacher, for the specialized program. He stated Mr. Blondina has demonstrated some good skills early and is worth investing the time and resources for. Mr. Kornegay said he will have the analysis of the special education program and services completed by the end of October.

**\*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.

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.

Mr. Cantagallo talked about Chromebooks. He stated it's great to see the school is committed to technology.

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

Due to the time required to prepare for the upcoming audit, the report will be presented at the October Regular Meeting.

**\*IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mrs. Gangemi reviewed Dr. Kornegay's report on Curriculum and Instruction. She reminded the Board that QSAC is 2016-2017. She stated the County is pleased with the work done so far on curriculum. She mentioned the Council of Instruction will meet on October 20, then have one meeting per month. Mr. Beers asked if problem based learning is math/science or cross-curricular. Mr. Kornegay replied cross-curricular. Mr. Beers asked who is going to the training. Mr. Kornegay said Mr. Zimmerman. Mr. Kornegay brought up approaching the PTA to help buy sleeves for the Chromebooks.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Matters listed within the consent agenda designated by \*( **including Board Secretary and Treasurer Report**) has been referred to members of the Board 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 Superintendent. If separate discussion is desired, the item may be removed from the consent agenda by Board action.

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

***Finance:***

Aug/Sept Bills List

- \*1. A motion was made by Mr. Bell and seconded by Mrs. Gangemi to approve the payment of invoices from check number 21646 to check number 21684, non-check number N1165, and checks 83015 and 91515, in the amount of \$158,606.97. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

***Facilities:***

Facilities Usage

- \*1. A motion was made by Mrs. Gangemi and seconded by Mr. Beers to approve the following uses of facilities. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

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Califon PTA Meetings    8<sup>th</sup> Gr. Room        10/1/15, 1/7/16, 4/7/16        7PM-8PM

***Transportation: NONE***

***Personnel:***

A motion was made by Mr. Beers and seconded by Mrs. Gangemi to approve the following. The motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.

Soccer Coach

- \*1. Motion to approve Tom Cutshaw as the soccer coach for 2015-16 at a stipend of \$1,400.

Staff Addition

- \*2. Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion to approve Alexandria Annunziata as a Special Education Aide (1.0 FTE), for the term of September 16, 2015 thru June 30, 2016, at a salary of \$17,338 (prorated).

Mr. Kornegay discussed the paraprofessional candidate. Mr. Bell asked about her resume. Mr. Kornegay said she was well qualified to replace Ms. Lima. Mr. ramarge asked if there have been any IEP problems. Mr. Kornegay replied the IEP's are being met, but that speech services need to be made up. Mrs. Gangemi asked about reaching out to other districts. Mr. Kornegay replied that he already tried.

Staff Development/Travel

- \*3. Motion to approve the following staff development/travel.

P. Johnston    NJ Science Convention        Princeton NJ    10/13-14/15    \$295

- \*4. Motion to approve the following professional development.

Rutgers Center for Literacy Development    3 Full Day Sessions (here)    \$3,600

Three full-day sessions to assess literacy instruction based on topics covered during previous training/coaching sessions. Mr. Kornegay asked Rutgers to come back and see where we are, make recommendations, and work with the teachers.

Speech Services

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- \*5. Motion to approve a contract with the Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission for speech services for the 2015-16 school year.

***B. Curriculum and Instruction***

Course Reimbursement:

- \*1. A motion was made by Mr. Bell and seconded by Mr. Beers to approve the following course reimbursement in accordance with Article XIII (2015-2018 Negotiated Agreement). The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

M. Zimmerman GED697 Educational Research - Special Ed Fall 2015 \$1,275

***C. Policy***

Mr. Bell stated they were unable to meet about the AED policy. He said AED policies were sent to Mr. Cutshaw and Mrs. Patterson for review. Mr. Ramarge suggested sticking to the letter of the law, but not being too restrictive. Mr. Ramarge asked about the contact system regarding the lock out. Mr. Kornegay replied Blackboard was expiring, and that he was checking Honeywell. Mr. Beers stated the notification was fine. Mr. Kornegay recommended avoiding social media. Mr. Ramarge recommended having the 2016-2017 school calendar drafted by the January 2016 meeting. Mr. Bell asked about getting estimates for air conditioning in the upstairs classrooms. Mr. Kornegay said he met with the county superintendent and discussed the State effort to update long range facilities plans.

***D. Communications: NONE***

**\*X. OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Ramarge brought up transportation for the cross-country team. Mr. Kornegay said he spoke with Mr. Cutshaw. A home meet is still off-site and not walking distance from the school. He stressed that it must be district transportation and not parent transportation for liability purposes. He suggested Mr. Cutshaw get a bus. Mr. Ramarge said the Athletic Director duties should include coordinating transportation for the basketball teams. He also mentioned scheduling better competition level schools that match up better to Califon. Mr. Kornegay said there is no stipend for the

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Athletic Director. Mr. Beers discussed parental involvement in co-curricular activities, and that a BOE approved person should be the point person. Mr. Ramarge said the point was well taken. He also discussed stipends. Mr. Bell said it is case by case, year by year. Mr. Kornegay suggested a more formal program of parent volunteers, and being careful about defining the parent role. Mr. Bell said he would check policy. Mr. Kornegay suggested better developed procedures. Mr. Ramarge said some stipend positions have clearly defined expectations. Mr. Beers brought up liability concerns. Mr. Kornegay said he would give a report at the October 2015 meeting.

**\*XI. NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Gangemi mentioned the high school graduation date is the same as Califon's eighth grade graduation date. Mr. Kornegay stated that once Voorhees sets the date, it is set. Mr. Beers recommended shortening the graduation ceremony. Mr. Ramarge asked about the additional in-service day. Mr. Kornegay replied he met with the teacher's association and gave them choices.

**\*XII. PUBLIC COMMENT (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.

Anyone wishing to speak before the board may do so during the 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.

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Mr. Suydam asked what is the justification for the ADD policy. Mr. Kornegay replied state law. He then asked Mr. Suydam if he meant AED policy. Mr. Suydam said yes. Mr. Suydam asked if the Board has a say in the security policy. Mr. Kornegay said yes, they have a lot of say. He discussed the Uniform Memorandum of Agreement with Law Enforcement. Mr. Bell asked if the Washington Township police were notified. Mr. Kornegay said yes. He discussed the prosecutor's office standard response protocols and incident command structure. Mr. Cantagallo asked what DI is. Mr.

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Ramarge reviewed Destination Imagination. Mr. Cantagello asked about the curriculum update policy. Mr. Kornegay replied the State mandates a renewal cycle. Mrs. Gangemi said the Council of Instruction reviews the five-year plan. Mr. Cantagallo asked about collaboration with the high school. Mr. Kornegay replied all sending districts meet with the high school. Mr. Cantagallo asked if there was statistical analysis of student achievement and curriculum gaps. Mr. Kornegay said some information is available from the high school, but they are limited as to what they can share sine they are a separate district.

**\*XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION - *NONE***

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

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 \_\_\_\_ 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 - *NONE***

**\*XV. ADJOURNMENT**

Being there no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Mr. Beers and seconded by Mrs. Gangemi to adjourn at 9:10 pm. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.



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Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas Johnston  
Board Secretary