

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
OCTOBER 18, 2017 7:30 p.m.**

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

This meeting is called to order at 7:33 p.m. with the following opening statement read by President Cantagallo:

“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 April 19, 2017. 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. Jeffrey Dahl  
Mrs. Nina DeCoster  
Mr. Christopher Keiser (arrived 7:42 p.m.)  
Mr. Mark Cantagallo

Members 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. Cantagallo and seconded by Mrs. DeCoster to approve the following minutes. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

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**\*V. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

\*1). A letter from a resident concerning trees along the property line. Mr. Kornegay explained the tree situation, and discussed the measures that will be taken.

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

\*1. Superintendent Update:

Facilities:

Mr. Kornegay presented Mr. Weber's Summer Facilities Report. He highlighted the lighting project and the monies that have been saved so far.

Personnel:

Mr. Kornegay discussed the proposed third grade maternity leave replacement teacher.

Curriculum and Instruction:

Mr. Kornegay explained the QSAC Statement of Assurances. He stated that this is a compliance process only. He reminded the Board that last year Califon received an exemption from the formal procedures done every three years.

Technology: NONE

HIB Report: NONE

**\*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.

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Mrs. Weiss expressed best wishes and prayers to Mrs. Hoitsma's mother.

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

After review of the Board Secretary's report for the month of September 2017, 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 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.

Mr. Johnston mentioned to the Board that the annual financial audit held October 16-17 went well. Mr. Kornegay thanked Mr. Johnston for his excellent work.

**\*IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Curriculum & Instruction Committee:

Mrs. DeCoster discussed recess guidelines. Mr. Keiser suggested written guidelines. Mr. Kornegay stated recess will be discussed at the next Council of Instruction meeting. He added that recess is important for the students. Mr. Keiser recommended adding stone to the playground entrance to alleviate water collecting there; the stone could act as a shoe scrub. Mrs. DeCoster suggested having more than thirty days notice for field trips. Mr. Kornegay discussed field trip transportation and bulk bids. Mrs. DeCoster asked about specials and the winter concert. Mr. Kornegay said he is looking into having a delayed opening the morning after a concert.

Policy & Legislation Committee: NONE

Finance, Facilities, & Transportation Committee:

Mr. Cantagallo talked about trees on the property. Mr. Keiser asked about vine cutting along the fence. Mr. Kornegay replied that took place in the summer.

Personnel Committee: NONE

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Negotiations Committee: NONE

Long Range Planning, Shared Services, & School Choice Committee:

Mr. Kornegay said he is sending a letter to Lebanon Township and Tewksbury about a feasibility study. Mr. Cantagallo mentioned the next meeting of the sending districts is Monday, October 30, 7:00 p.m., at the North Hunterdon-Voorhees Board office.

Communications Committee: NONE

**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 motion was made by Mrs. DeCoster and seconded by Mr. Cantagallo to review the Consent Agenda items. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

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

***Finance:***

Sep-Oct Bills List

- \*1. A motion was made by Mr. Cantagallo and seconded by Mrs. DeCoster to approve the payment of invoices from check number 22859 thru check number 22904, and checks 93017 and 10517, and non-check N1209, in the amount of \$287,037.05. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

Health Insurance

- \*2. A motion was made by Mr. Cantagallo and seconded by Mrs. DeCoster to approve the following resolution to join the Schools Health Insurance Fund. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Kornegay described the process with the SHIF, the brokers, the staff, and the Business Administrator. He discussed the "equal to or better" letter provided by SHIF, adding his experience with Lebanon Township has shown them to be responsive. Mr. Kornegay stated this is an appropriate move, with a short-term savings to the district of around \$30,000 and

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annual premium increases of 5% - 6% instead of 8% - 12% (Lebanon Township's latest increase was 3.8%). He said he will continue to work with the staff, and that the brokers have been very good throughout the process. He recognized there is always anxiety with change.

**Whereas**, a number of School Boards in the State of New Jersey have joined together to form the Schools Health Insurance Fund, hereafter referred to as "SHIF", as permitted N.J.S.A. 18A:18B-1 et seq., and;

**Whereas**, the SHIF has received approval by the Commissioner of the Department of Banking and Insurance on August 10, 2015;

**Whereas**, the statutes and regulations governing the creation and operation of a joint insurance fund, contain certain elaborate restrictions and safeguards concerning the safe and efficient administration of the public interest entrusted to such a School Board joint insurance fund;

**Whereas**, the governing body of the Califon School District, hereinafter referred to as "SCHOOL BOARD" has determined that membership in the SHIF is in the best interest of said SCHOOL BOARD.

**Now, therefore, Be It Resolved** that the governing body of the SCHOOL BOARD hereby agrees as follows:

- \*i. SCHOOL BOARD shall become a member of the SHIF for the period outlined in the SCHOOL BOARD's Indemnity and Trust Agreement.
- \*ii. SCHOOL BOARD will participate in the following type(s) of coverage(s):  
  
Health Insurance as defined pursuant to N.J.S.A 17B:17-4, the SHIF's Bylaws, and the SHIF's Plan of Risk Management
- \*iii. SCHOOL BOARD accepts and approves the SHIF's Bylaws and agrees to be bound by the terms thereof.
- \*iv. SCHOOL BOARD shall execute an application for membership and any accompanying certifications.
- \*v. SCHOOL BOARD agrees to commit to the four principles of the SHIF which are:
  - \*a). A long term philosophy on rates.
  - \*b). A willingness to work with bargaining units to achieve plan design changes.
  - \*c). Professional management with stability and commitment.

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\*d). Rating structure based on actuarial numbers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governing body of the SCHOOL BOARD is authorized and directed to execute the Indemnity and Trust Agreement and such other documents signifying membership in the SHIF as required by the SHIF's Bylaws, and to deliver these documents to the SHIF's Executive Director with the express reservation that these documents shall become effective only upon:

\*a). Approval of the SCHOOL BOARD by the SHIF.

\*b). Receipt by the SHIF of a Resolution from the SCHOOL BOARD accepting SCHOOL BOARD'S SHIF assessment.

\*c). Approval by the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance of SCHOOL BOARD as a member of the SHIF.

***Facilities:***

Facilities Usage

\*1. A motion was made by Mr. Cantagallo and seconded by Mrs. DeCoster to approve the following facilities usage. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Dances Gym Friday 11/03/17, 12/15/17, 02/02/18, 04/27/18 7:00PM-9:30PM

LTAA Basketball Gym Games and Practices 01/02/2018-03/10/2018 per attached schedule

TREP\$ Mentor Workshop Library Wednesday 01/31/2018 7:00PM – 8:30PM

TREP\$ Marketplace Gym Friday 03/09/2018 (snow date Sat 03/10/18) 7:00PM – 9:00PM

Comprehensive Maintenance Plan and M-1

\*2. A motion was made by Mr. Cantagallo and seconded by Mrs. DeCoster to approve submission of the attached Comprehensive Maintenance Plan and M-1 to the New Jersey Department of Education. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

***Transportation: NONE***

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***Personnel:***

Leave Replacement

\*1. A motion was made by Mr. Cantagallo and seconded by Mrs. DeCoster to approve Alyssa Lee as a maternity leave replacement in Grade 3, for the extent of the maternity leave, at BA Step 1 (\$49,459 prorated). The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

***B. Curriculum and Instruction***

Health Report

\*1. A motion was made by Mr. Cantagallo and seconded by Mrs. DeCoster to approve the attached Health Report for September 2017. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

Field Trips

\*2. A motion was made by Mr. Cantagallo and seconded by Mrs. DeCoster to approve the following field trips. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

Crystal Cave Tour, Kutztown PA Gr. 6-8 10/19/17 9:00AM-3:00PM Cost to Board: \$429

Course Reimbursement

\*3. A motion was made by Mr. Cantagallo and seconded by Mrs. DeCoster to approve the following course reimbursement in accordance with Article XIII (2015-2018 Negotiated Contract). The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

A. Demarco ELAD635-02FA17 Montclair State University \$2,080

QSAC Assurances

\*4. A motion was made by Mr. Cantagallo and seconded by Mrs. DeCoster to approve the QSAC Statement of Assurances, and the following resolution. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

**Whereas** the Califon Board of Education approves the contents of the 2017-2018 QSAC Statement of Assurances;

**Therefore**, it is resolved that the information provided in the QSAC Statement of Assurances is accurately represented.

**\*X. OLD BUSINESS**

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Mr. Cantagallo addressed the upcoming negotiations with the teachers. He announced that, in addition to the Negotiations Committee, Mr. Dahl would be on the Policy Committee and the Personnel committee. Mrs. DeCoster asked about a formal list and descriptions of the stipend positions. Mr. Kornegay replied he will send the document to the Board. Mr. Keiser asked about discussing the stipends for winter sports. Mr. Kornegay replied that discussion would take place in the Personnel Committee.

**\*XI. NEW BUSINESS: NONE**

**\*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.

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.

Mrs. Patterson thanked Mr. Johnston for the work he did on behalf of the staff regarding the proposed health insurance program, and for getting answers to the staff's questions. She advised the Board to make sure the final details of the new plan are equal to or better than the State plan. She added not knowing leads to anxiety, and recognized the new plan brings good savings to the district. Mr. Kornegay explained the letter of commitment from SHIF makes them legally bound to provide equal to or better coverage. He further explained the SHIF takes a stock plan and customizes it to the bargaining unit.

**\*XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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 8:14 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**

A motion was made by Mr. Cantagallo and seconded by Mr. Keiser to reconvene to regular session at 9:09 p.m. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**\*XV. ADJOURNMENT**

With there being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Mr. Cantagallo and seconded by Mrs. DeCoster to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted:

Thomas Johnston  
Board Secretary