

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING &
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
May 2, 2018 7:30 p.m.**

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

This meeting is called to order at 7:35 p.m. with the following opening statement read by Mr. 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 to Hunterdon County Democrat, the Hunterdon Review and The Express Times. The agenda of this meeting has been posted at the Califon School and on the district’s website.

***II. THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

All those in attendance pledged to the flag.

***III. ROLL CALL**

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Members present: | Mr. Jeffrey Dahl Mrs. Nina DeCoster Mr. Cantagallo Dr. Jevan Furmanski (arrived at 7:45 PM) Mr. Chris Keiser (arrived at 8:05 PM) |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

| | |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Also present: | Mr. Jason Kornegay, Superintendent Ms. Karin Laraway, Interim Board Secretary |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

***IV. PRESENTATION OF THE 2018-19 SCHOOL BUDGET**

Mr. Kornegay presented the 2018-19 school district budget. The budget includes a flat tax levy and flat state aid. The majority of the budget is funded through local taxes. Debt service will continue until 2022. No programs have been cut. The budget includes funding for enhancing literacy, the new science standards, professional development and facility maintenance.

Members of the public questioned when the budget would be on the website to compare costs from year to year. It will be on the website the following day after the meeting.

Mr. Daniels, Califon Mayor, stated that he is meeting with the governor to discuss issues that pertain to small municipalities and asked if the Board would like him to ask about anything specific. The Board responded to ask about when will there be funding according to the school formula and what is the future of school choice.

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***V. 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.

***VI. APPROVAL OF THE 2018-19 SCHOOL BUDGET**

1. Motion made by Mr. Cantagallo, seconded by Dr. Furmanski, and approved by a unanimous roll call vote, to adopt the 2018-19 school district budget as approved by the Hunterdon County Superintendent and the 2018-19 travel resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the final budget be approved for the 2018-19 school year:

| | <u>GENERAL FUND</u> | <u>SPECIAL REVENUES</u> | <u>DEBT SERVICE</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| 2018-19 Total Expenditures | 2,658,961 | 44,340 | 173,185 | 2,876,486 |
| Less: Anticipated Revenues | 464,438 | 44,340 | 44,459 | 553,237 |
| Taxes to be Raised | 2,194,523 | 0 | 128,726 | 2,323,249 |

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Califon Board of Education acknowledge that the 2018-19 budget results in a general fund tax levy of \$2,194,523

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Califon Board of Education

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Acknowledges that the 2018-19 budget results in a debt service tax levy of \$128,726 as approved by voter referendum

The proposed budget includes sufficient funds to provide curriculum and instruction which will enable all students to achieve the Core Curriculum Content Standards and is in compliance with N.J.S.A.18A AND N.J.A.C. Title 6 and 6A.

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 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 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:23A-7.3 to a maximum expenditure of \$2,000 for all staff and board members.

***VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion made by Mr. Cantagallo, seconded by Mrs. DeCoster, and approved on a unanimous voice vote, to approve the following minutes:

| | |
|------------------|-------------------------------|
| February 8, 2018 | Regular and executive session |
| March 26, 2018 | Regular and executive session |
| April 25, 2018 | Regular and executive session |

***VIII. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

A letter was received from a neighbor regarding the fence repairs. Quotes were obtained and repairs will be during the summer.

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***IX. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

*1. Superintendent Update:

Facilities: Budget included small projects such as gutters, fence repair, and grounds maintenance.

Personnel: Committee will meet to review personnel.

Curriculum and Instruction: New guidelines for QSAC have not been published.

Technology: Nothing at this time.

HIB Report: No reports.

***X. BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT** – Nothing at this time.

***XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Curriculum & Instruction Committee: Not met

Policy & Legislation Committee: Not met

Finance, Facilities, & Transportation Committee: Committee met to review the budger.

Personnel Committee: Not met

Negotiations Committee: Will be scheduling a meeting.

Long Range Planning, Shared Services, & School Choice Committee: Feasibility study to review send/receive relationship.

***XII 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.

Motion made by Mr. Cantagallo, seconded by Dr. Furmanski, to discuss

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the consent agenda items. The motion was approved on a unanimous voice vote.

Motion made by Mr. Cantagallo, seconded by Mr. Furmanski, and approved on a unanimous roll call vote, to approve the consent agenda.

A. Finance/Facilities/Transportation/Personnel

Finance:

1. Motion to approve the list of bills dated March 29, 2018 through May 2, 2018 in the amount of \$371,389.50.

2. Motion to approve the following tuition requests:

| | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| M. Zimmerman | Finance & Facilities GED 680 Summer 2018 Centenary Univ | \$1326 |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------|

| | | |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| A. DeMarco | Leadership & Learning Org 543-02 Summer 2018 Montclair Univ | \$2080.11 |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|

| | | |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| A. DeMarco | Differentiated Supv 540-02 Fall 2018 Montclair Univ | \$2080.11 |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------|

3. Motion to approve the following travel request:

| | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------|-------|
| L. Montesion | Writer's Workshop May 15, 2018 Somerset, NJ | \$209 |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------|-------|

4. Motion to approve the New Jersey Child Assault Prevention (NJCAP) Program for 2018-19. NJCAP will pay \$523.70 with the district's obligation in the amount of \$224.70.

Facilities:

1. Motion to approve the following facilities usage request:

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|---------|
| a. PTA Information Meeting | April 11, 2018 | Library |
|----------------------------|----------------|---------|

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6:30 – 7:30 PM

Transportation:

Personnel:

1. Motion to approve the following staff for Home Instruction at a rate of \$40/hr.

Robin Hueneman
Kristen Charleston

2. Motion to approve the following stipend requests:

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|---------|
| Lisa Kooger | Reading Olympics Advisor | \$ 500 |
| Marie Heyduke | Reading Olympics Advisor | \$ 500 |
| Matthew Zimmerman | TREP\$ Chairperson | \$1,000 |
| Marie Heyduk | TREP\$ Chairperson | \$1,000 |
| Lisa Madson | After School Art Club | \$ 420 |

3. Motion to appoint Paula Hatch as School Treasurer for the 2017-18 school year in the amount of \$1,000.

4. Motion to approve the following substitutes for the 2017-18 school year:

Alyssa Lee
Karen Moore-Negast

5. Motion to approve the sidebar agreement to the collective bargaining agreement dated July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2018 between the Califon Board of Education and the Califon Education Association.

B. Curriculum and Instruction

1. Motion to approve the following field trip:

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|------------------|
| Junior Solar Sprints Competitions | 5/18/18 | Transportation – |
| Enrichment Program | | Enrichment Fund |
| River Walk to local branch of river | 5/22/18 | No cost to BOE |
| Grade 6-8 | | |

2. Motion to approve an agreement with the Centenary University for Fall 2018 and Spring 2019 - Clinical Field Experience and Internship:

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- a. Clinical Intern – Andrianno Anghelone – 3rd grade
Start date approximately 8-29-18 thru 12-14-18
 - b. Clinical Intern – TBD – 4th grade
Start date approximately 1-14-19 thru 3-1-19
 - c. Clinical Intern – TBD – Sp Ed
Start date approximately 3-4-19 thru 5-3-19
3. Motion to approve the health report for March 2018.
 4. Motion to approve the school calendar for the 2018-19 school year.

***XIII. OLD BUSINESS** – None at this time.

***XIV. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Motion made by Mrs. DeCoster, seconded by Mr. Keiser, to approve the Board of Education meeting schedule from June 2018 through December 2018.
Motion approved on a unanimous voice vote.

***XV. 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.

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There were many questions regarding the feasibility study. Mr. Kornegay stated that the Board has received the final draft of the study which is based on the demographic study of 2015. The Board is in the process of reviewing the study.

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Public: When will the public have access to the study?

Mr. Kornegay: It will be on the website on Thursday, May 3, along with the demographic study.

Public: Will the BOE continue to look at all options and will the public have an opportunity to voice their opinions?

Mr. Cantagallo: There will be a public meeting on May 10 to discuss the feasibility study. The BOE has been discussing the decreasing enrollment for over a year and a half. Please submit any questions or other comments regarding the study to the BOE.

Public: The school is an important part of the community and decisions regarding the school affect everyone. The whole community needs to be informed about the study and the upcoming meeting.

Public: Is there a deadline that action has to be taken?

Mr. Kornegay: Any change in structure needs county approval.

Public: Is there enough time to fully review the feasibility study and the impact of decisions made in just two weeks?

Mr. Cantagallo: The BOE has discretion as to decisions and again, the BOE has been discussing this for over a year and a half.

Public: When the decision is made at a public meeting, will the public have input before the meeting? This impacts the whole town and the whole town needs to have all the information.

Public: Have all options been discussed and part of the feasibility study?

Mr. Kornegay: The conversation started a long time ago with the declining enrollment. This is an ongoing problem and the BOE made a decision to seek a more permanent solution with what the district is facing. The feasibility study looks at a specific relationship – send/receive with Lebanon Twp.

Dr. Furmanski: This is not a purely financial decision. It has to be driven by program and what is in the best interest for the students, programmatically, socially, and emotionally.

Public: Does the study indicate how IEP students will transitions and be affected?

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Mr. Kornegay: Any study looks at all programs including special education but does not get detailed by individual.

Public: Did the study look at combining classes and grades which is a more novel approach?

Mr. Kornegay: The study did not look at multiage grades. There are specific curriculum demands at each grade level. The study also did not look at regionalization. A full regionalization study costs approximately \$40,000. The study looked at what the BOE asked it to look at, a send/receive relationship.

Mr. Cantagallo: The BOE has been discussing this for over a year and a half.

Public: It appears that parents have no voice in a send/receive relationship whereas in a merger, the public has a vote. The decision is with the BOE on a send/receive relationship.

Public: Back in the day when there was a proposed addition to the school, the stakeholders were involved in the process. The school is important in the community And the BOE needs to keep the community fully informed.

Public: Three or four school districts merged in South Hunterdon. Each community had to vote to regionalize. If one community voted no, there would be no regionalization. The study cost approximately \$85,000.

Mr. Cantagallo: The BOE has to have a plan to move forward. Motions can be tabled.

Public: Does the report take into account that younger couples may move in during the next five years and Califon may need a school?

Mr. Kornegay: the study takes into account the demographic study and current factors in movement patterns.

Public: Is there an option to being back school choice?

Mr. Kornegay: School choice was not designed for Hunterdon County, it was designed for failing schools. There is a cap imposed by the state as to the number of choice students a school may have.

Public: Poll the stakeholders, look at regionalization, slow down.

Public: When the addition was being discussed, all community groups were involved. All stakeholders cam to a consensus based on information and research.

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Public: If you send some students to another school, what is the social impact on the students left behind?

Public: Appreciate the time the BOE has spent, this is a long process and the community has had little time to digest.

Public: Does staff have to be notified?

Mr. Kornegay: Non tenured staff has to be notified by May 15.

Public: Will the person who did the study be at the next meeting?

Mr. Kornegay: Mr. David Hespe did the study. I will check his availability.

Public: Will there be a flyer distributed?

Mr. Kornegay: Yes

Public: After going through this several times, the school is an asset to the community, but at the end of the day if the community decides to not have the school, celebrate it. Consider community involvement in the decision.

Public: This is a decision the community makes. It is a disaster for the kids left behind. Families will have kids in two different schools.

Mr. Cantagallo: Thank you for coming to discuss your concerns.

***XVI. 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

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

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- 7. Pending/Anticipated litigation/Contract negotiation
- 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: 35 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.

Motion made by Mr. Keiser, seconded by Mr. Cantagallo to enter into executive session.
Motion approved on a unanimous voice vote.

***XVII. RECONVENE**

Motion made by Mr. Cantagallo, seconded by Mrs. DeCoster, to return to the regular meeting.
The time was 11:20 pm. Motion approved on a unanimous voice vote.

***XVIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Mr. Cantagallo, seconded by Dr Furmanski, to adjourn the meeting. The time was 11:20 PM. Motion approved on a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Karin Laraway
Interim Business Administrator