

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
of the
MERCER COUNTY SPECIAL SERVICES SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES

BUSINESS MEETING
Tuesday January 7, 2020
4:30 pm

The monthly business meeting for the month of January 2020 was held this day in the Mercer Elementary School Superintendent's Conference Room, 2nd Floor, 1020 Old Trenton Road, Hamilton, NJ.

The Board of Education took the following actions:

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Board of Education President Camille Rainiero called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT: Ms. Rainiero read the following statement:

In accordance with the provisions New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law, the Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be posted in the Board Office and in the Mercer County Clerk's Office and mailed to the *Trenton Times*.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Camille Rainiero, Yasmin Hernandez-Manno, Lisa Vena, Jan Lewis & Gerald Stockman.

Also Present: Dr. Kimberly Schneider, Superintendent, Deborah Donnelly, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, and Walter Bliss, Board Attorney.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Ms. Rainiero led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **PUBLIC SESSION:**

Presentation by Anne Marie Pizzullo and student KJ of the National Eagle Conservatory Eagle Cam in Southwest Florida which views an eagle's nest. Ms. Pizzullo's class won a 30-minute chat session with eagle experts who answered all the student's questions.

4. **Approval of the December 3, 2019 Board Meeting Regular Minutes:**

A Motion by Lisa Vena and seconded by Gerald Stockman to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Ms. Vena -	Abstain	Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
Ms. Lewis -	Yes	Ms. Rainiero - Yes
Mr. Stockman -	Yes	

5. Bills To Be Approved totaling \$ 4,321,844.46 and authorization of transfers within program areas as approved by the Superintendent

A Motion by Lisa Vena and seconded by Jan Lewis to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Ms. Vena -	Yes	Ms. Hernandez-Manno -	Yes
Ms. Lewis -	Yes	Ms. Rainiero -	Yes
Mr. Stockman -	Yes		

6. Board Secretary/Treasurer’s Report for November 2019

A Motion by Jan Lewis and seconded by Lisa Vena to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Ms. Vena -	Yes	Ms. Hernandez-Manno -	Yes
Ms. Lewis -	Yes	Ms. Rainiero -	Yes
Mr. Stockman -	Yes		

7. Correspondence & Communications –

Deborah Donnelly, Business Administrator gave a 2019/2020 budget update.

8. Committee Reports – None

9. Superintendent’s Report - None

New/Special Projects: None

Recommend Board approve the following:

PERSONNEL & ADDENDUM

BE IT RESOLVED That the Board of Education does hereby approve the following appointments, reappointments, adjustments, resignations, terminations, retirements, leaves, transfers, suspensions, and requests for expedites, emergency certification for the School Year 2019 – 2020 as recommended by the Superintendent.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That the Board of Education submit to the County Superintendent, as required, applications for emergency hiring and the applicants’ attestations that they have not been convicted of any disqualifying crime pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et seq, N.J.S.A. 18A:39-17 et seq, or N.J.S.A. 18A:6-4.13 et seq.

- Appointments, Resignations, Leaves, Retirements, etc. (Attachment 9-A)

A Motion by Jan Lewis and Seconded by Gerald Stockman was made to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Ms. Vena -	Yes	Ms. Hernandez-Manno -	Yes
Ms. Lewis -	Yes	Ms. Rainiero -	Yes
Mr. Stockman -	Yes		

*Note: Ms. Hernandez-Manno abstains from Emergent hire.

- Approve Michele Coleman from Mercer County Technical Schools as a bus driver on an as needed basis for the period January 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020 at an hourly rate of \$19.00 not to exceed \$3,000. Mercer County Special Services School District will pay 100% as per the Inter-local Services Act, N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et sq. (Act).

A Motion by Jan Lewis and Seconded by Gerald Stockman was made to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Ms. Vena -	Yes	Ms. Hernandez-Manno -	Yes
Ms. Lewis -	Yes	Ms. Rainiero -	Yes
Mr. Stockman -	Yes		

- Approve to ratify the attached Memorandum of Agreement between the Board of Education of the Mercer County Special Services School District (MCSSSD) and the Mercer County Special Services Educational and Therapeutic Association (MCSSETA) covering the period July 1, 2018 thru June 30, 2022.

A Motion by Jan Lewis and Seconded by Gerald Stockman was made to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Ms. Vena -	Yes	Ms. Hernandez-Manno -	Yes
Ms. Lewis -	Yes	Ms. Rainiero -	Yes
Mr. Stockman -	Yes		

MISCELLANEOUS:

Recommend Board approve the following:

- 2019-2020 Statement of Assurance Regarding the Use of Paraprofessional Staff (*Attachment 9-B*)

A Motion by Jan Lewis and Seconded by Gerald Stockman was made to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Ms. Vena -	Yes	Ms. Hernandez-Manno -	Yes
Ms. Lewis -	Yes	Ms. Rainiero -	Yes
Mr. Stockman -	Yes		

- Revised and/or New Policies, Regulations, or By-Laws - First Reading

BYLAWS - None

POLICIES

REGULATIONS

- Revised and/or New Policies, Regulations, or By-Laws - Second Reading (no changes made from first reading)

BYLAWS – None

POLICIES

P7740 School District Security (M)

REGULATIONS

R7740 School District Security (M)

ABOLISHED - Policies, Regulations, or By-Laws -None

A Motion by Jan Lewis and Seconded by Gerald Stockman was made to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Ms. Vena -	Yes	Ms. Hernandez-Manno -	Yes
Ms. Lewis -	Yes	Ms. Rainiero -	Yes
Mr. Stockman -	Yes		

REPORTS:

Recommend Board approve the following:

- Fire and Security Drill(s) for the month of December 2019 (*Attachment 9-C*)

A Motion by Jan Lewis and Seconded by Gerald Stockman was made to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Ms. Vena -	Yes	Ms. Hernandez-Manno -	Yes
Ms. Lewis -	Yes	Ms. Rainiero -	Yes
Mr. Stockman -	Yes		

- Harassment, Intimidation & Bullying as of December 2019:

Month	Investigations	HIB	Non-HIB
July	0	0	0
August	0	0	0

September	0	0	0
October	0	0	0
November	0	0	0
December	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0

A Motion by Jan Lewis and Seconded by Gerald Stockman was made to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Ms. Vena -	Yes	Ms. Hernandez-Manno -	Yes
Ms. Lewis -	Yes	Ms. Rainiero -	Yes
Mr. Stockman -	Yes		

- Enrollment Data as of December 2019

	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
2018-2019	454	454	547	567	571	575	579	580	581	586	587	588
2019-2020	497	498	548	546	546	551						

	11/30/2019	12/31/2019
Mercer High School	253	255
Mercer Elementary School	206	206
Regional Day	9	9
Joseph F. Cappello School	<u>78</u>	<u>81</u>
TOTAL:	<u>546</u>	<u>551</u>

A Motion by Jan Lewis and Seconded by Gerald Stockman was made to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Ms. Vena -	Yes	Ms. Hernandez-Manno -	Yes
Ms. Lewis -	Yes	Ms. Rainiero -	Yes
Mr. Stockman -	Yes		

11. **NEW BUSINESS**

Recommend Board approve the following:

- a. Approve to continue the services of Benefit Express Services, LLC for COBRA Retiree Administrative Services to be paid by Conner Strong & Buckelew on behalf of Mercer County Special Services School District for the period March 1, 2020 to February 28, 2023 (Attachment 11-a).

A Motion by Jan Lewis and Seconded by Lisa Vena was made to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Ms. Vena -	Yes	Ms. Hernandez-Manno -	Yes
Ms. Lewis -	Yes	Ms. Rainiero -	Yes
Mr. Stockman -	Yes		

- b. Approve to accept a donation in the amount of \$25 to the students of the Mercer High School in memory of Dorothy Bracolini, mother of a former student.

A Motion by Jan Lewis and Seconded by Lisa Vena was made to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Ms. Vena -	Yes	Ms. Hernandez-Manno -	Yes
Ms. Lewis -	Yes	Ms. Rainiero -	Yes
Mr. Stockman -	Yes		

- c. Approval of Transportation Contract(s) Addenda, Bids, Renewals per N.J.A.C. 6A:27-11.2 (Attachment 11-c).

A Motion by Jan Lewis and Seconded by Lisa Vena was made to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Ms. Vena -	Yes	Ms. Hernandez-Manno -	Yes
Ms. Lewis -	Yes	Ms. Rainiero -	Yes
Mr. Stockman -	Yes		

- d. Approve Staff and Student Travel (Attachment 11-d).

A Motion by Jan Lewis and Seconded by Lisa Vena was made to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Ms. Vena -	Yes	Ms. Hernandez-Manno -	Yes
Ms. Lewis -	Yes	Ms. Rainiero -	Yes
Mr. Stockman -	Yes		

- e. Approve the Tuition Rates for 2020/2021 School Year (Attachment 11-e).

A Motion by Jan Lewis and Seconded by Lisa Vena was made to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Ms. Vena -	Yes	Ms. Hernandez-Manno -	Yes
Ms. Lewis -	Yes	Ms. Rainiero -	Yes
Mr. Stockman -	Yes		

- f. Approve to submit the alternate Semi revenue waiver request for the 2020/21 school year in the amount of \$350,000.

A Motion by Jan Lewis and Seconded by Lisa Vena was made to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Ms. Vena -	Yes	Ms. Hernandez-Manno -	Yes
Ms. Lewis -	Yes	Ms. Rainiero -	Yes
Mr. Stockman -	Yes		

- g. Approve the affiliation agreement between Mercer County special Services School District and The College of NJ (TCNJ) (Attachment 11-g).

A Motion by Jan Lewis and Seconded by Lisa Vena was made to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Ms. Vena -	Yes	Ms. Hernandez-Manno -	Yes
Ms. Lewis -	Yes	Ms. Rainiero -	Yes
Mr. Stockman -	Yes		

- h. Approve Heather Pyle to perform Human Resource systems technical support as needed for the period July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 at \$40 per hour at a cost not to exceed \$15,000.

A Motion by Jan Lewis and Seconded by Lisa Vena was made to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Ms. Vena -	Yes	Ms. Hernandez-Manno -	Yes
Ms. Lewis -	Yes	Ms. Rainiero -	Yes
Mr. Stockman -	Yes		

- i. Approve the revised 2020/2021 Budget Planning Schedule (Attachment 11-i).

A Motion by Jan Lewis and Seconded by Lisa Vena was made to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Ms. Vena -	Yes	Ms. Hernandez-Manno -	Yes
Ms. Lewis -	Yes	Ms. Rainiero -	Yes
Mr. Stockman -	Yes		

12. ADJOURNMENT

A Motion by Jan Lewis and Seconded by Lisa Vena to adjourn the meeting passed by unanimous voice vote, (5) aye's (0) nay's. Meeting was adjourned at 5:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Deborah Donnelly
Business Administrator/Board Secretary