

**NORTH ARLINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
NORTH ARLINGTON, NEW JERSEY**

PUBLIC WORK SESSION

February 25, 2019

5:33 p.m.

Board of Education Office

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

Mr. Dorsett	<u>Present</u>
Mr. Smith	<u>Present</u>
Mrs. Gilgallon	<u>Present</u>
Mrs. Higgins	<u>Present</u>
Mr. McDermott	<u>Present</u>

Two members of the community were present at the meeting. One member displayed a recording device and was assumed to be recording the session.

III. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

IV. STATEMENT OF PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

This Public Meeting of January 28, 2019, of the Board of Education of the Borough of North Arlington, in the County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, is called pursuant to a schedule of meetings adopted on January 3, 2019, as amended, and of notice given to the Clerk of the Borough of North Arlington and to the Librarian of the Free Public Library of North Arlington for posting therein as election notices are posted and of notice given to the Editor of the following newspapers: the Bergen RECORD of Hackensack and the Newark Star Ledger.

Mr. McDermott announced that a recording device was placed on the table.

The Superintendent discussed:

1. Mr. Dorsett inquired about the medical leave for a staff member. The Superintendent clarified the unpaid medical leave.
2. Mr. Dorsett inquired about the resignation of a tenured teacher. The Superintendent stated that the teacher was currently on extended maternity leave.
3. Mr. Smith inquired about the safety of the concrete work at Washington School. The Superintendent stated that this portion of the sidewalk was in need of repair.
4. Mr. McDermott discussed recusing himself from Items D. & E. under Operations, and amended the Agenda in Open Session, on the January 28, 2019 Agenda due to work conflict.
5. Mrs. Higgins inquired about the amended addendum. Mrs. Dembowski stated that we have added an addendum to the association contract allowing all employees to participate in in Flexable Spending for dependent care.
6. Mr. Dorsett commended our Athletic Director for the great job he was doing. Mr. Dorsett said that everything was running smoothly at basketball games that he attended. Mrs. Higgins said that the recreation department had commented on how easy the Athletic Director was to work with regarding their use of facilities.
7. Mr. McDermott inquired about how many softball coaches were in place. The Superintendent provided clarification.

8. Mrs. Higgins commented on the number of student volunteers that come back to help coaches, and how nice it was for them to volunteer their time.
9. Mr. Dorsett discussed installing bleachers for the crew spectators to sit and watch the races in the future.
10. Mrs. Gilgallon inquired about district special education contracts and translation services. Mrs. Dembowski addressed her question regarding specific services being listed with the breakdown of each service.
11. Mrs. Higgins discussed a walkthrough that she had at the elementary and middle schools and witnessed the overcrowding. She said that it was eye opening to walk in and actually see it firsthand. Students were sharing a media center with three and four classrooms at a time with dividers for separation. Mrs. Higgins noted on a positive of the walkthrough was that all of the children said “hello” to Dr. Yurchak as he walked by, and all knew who he was. She thanked him for all of his hard work.
12. Mrs. Higgins also commended the teachers for doing what they do in the overcrowded conditions. Mr. Dorsett also commended the teachers for doing a great job.
13. Mr. Dorsett thanked everyone for their hard work and especially to the Superintendent who has put in a lot of hours, even on weekends, and commended him on his dedication.
14. Mr. Dorsett discussed that he spoke to the parents about the heat at the Middle School and the High School regarding air conditioning units possibly being installed in the spring. The Superintendent stated that he has been working on it with the principals, boosters, PTOs, and previous graduating classes as well.
15. Mr. McDermott gave credit to the PTOs and recognized their fundraising efforts in order to raise funds for air conditioning units in the elementary schools.
16. Mrs. Gilgallon discussed the NJ Coalition for Inclusive Education meeting on March 5th at 10:00 a.m. at the Region 5 office in Oradell. She said she would like Mr. Burke to attend the meeting regarding a grant to get intensive training for teachers. The Superintendent thanked Mrs. Gilgallon and would review with Mr. Burke.
17. The Superintendent discussed submitting for a grant with NJ Tiered System of Support-Early Reading Grant which allows programming to increase the reading skills for K-3. They will be providing \$2,000 to the selected districts to cover substitutes for teachers who are getting trained. The experts will come in and provide instructional training.
18. The Superintendent discussed the Early College Program. The graduation is set for May 23rd at Met Life Stadium at 10:00 a.m.
19. Mr. Dorsett inquired about the school report cards. The Superintendent stated that they are embargoed and cannot be released publicly yet.

Motion to go into Executive Session at 5:55 p.m. made by Mr. McDermott, second by Mr. Smith. There was no discussion. On Roll Call all Board Members present voted in the affirmative and none in the negative, it was so ordered.

The Assistant Business Administrator asked the two community members present to please exit since we were entering into Executive Session.

The two community members left the meeting at 5:55 p.m.

Respectfully,

Kathleen McEwin-Marano
KMM:at