

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

SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING

December 23, 2020

1:30 p.m.

High School Gymnasium

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

Mr. Dorsett	Present
Mr. Smith	Present
Mrs. Gilgallon	Present
Mr. McDermott	Present
Mrs. Higgins	Present

III. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

IV. STATEMENT OF PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

This Special Public Meeting of December 23, 2020, 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 6, 2020 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 Editors of the following newspaper: the Bergen RECORD of Hackensack and the Newark STAR LEDGER

V. SUPERINTENDENT'S STATEMENT

This meeting is open to the public for the purpose of addressing any subject matter that is pertinent to and/or directly related to the operation of the North Arlington Public School District. Residents wishing to speak on such items are required to state their names, addresses and subject matter. Pursuant to Board Bylaw 0167, Public Participation in Board Meetings, comments are limited to 5 minutes duration.

The Board may (or may not) respond to issues raised by members of the public at the time they are raised, but will provide a response if and when appropriate. However, the Board cannot directly respond to the issues regarding personnel, in order to protect the privacy rights of the individual.

Please be advised that there is no privilege or qualified privilege with regard to any statements that you make before the Board. What this means is that while you are certainly free to exercise your right to comment on issues before the Board, such comments are considered public statements, and may be responded to or acted upon by any individuals affected by them. The Board will, of course, consider your comments as they relate to its obligations to effectively govern the North Arlington School District, but cannot offer protection from any action that a third-party may elect to pursue as a result of any statements offered during public session.

AGENDA, DECEMBER 23, 2020 SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING

VI. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

There were no citizens wishing to be heard.

Motion to close the Hearing of Citizens made by Mr. Smith, second by Mrs. Gilgallon. There was no Discussion. On Roll Call all Board Members present voted in the affirmative and none in the negative, it was so ordered.

VII. FINANCE

The Superintendent proudly announced that the NJDOE has awarded the North Arlington Public School District with \$560,208.00 in Preschool Education Aid to open three preschool classrooms for children who are age four. The Superintendent thanked the School Business Administrator, Director of Special Education, several principals, all stakeholders involved, and the Board for everyone's efforts during this process. The Superintendent explained that this was the second year applying for the aid and that its initial focus, as outlined by the NJDOE, is to provide preschool services to children who meet certain socio-economic criteria. The Superintendent also congratulated the owners of Sunshine Clubhouse, who will be serving as one of the preschool locations.

A. MOTION TO RATIFY AND AFFIRM THE SUBMISSION OF THE PRESCHOOL EDUCATION AID (PEA) APPLICATION

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Schools recommends that the North Arlington Board of Education ratifies and affirms the submission of the Preschool Education Aid (PEA) application to the New Jersey Department of Education for the 2021 Fiscal Year.

BE IT RESOLVED, the North Arlington Board of Education ratifies and affirms the submission of the Preschool Education Aid (PEA) application to the New Jersey Department of Education for the 2021 Fiscal Year.

On Motion by Mrs. Gilgallon, second by Mr. McDermott. Discussion: Mrs. Higgins thanked everyone in the application process. Mr. McDermott seconded that and said that he was so pleased with the outcome. On Roll Call all Board Members present voted in the affirmative and none in the negative, it was so ordered.

Mr. Dorsett inquired if with the expansion would bring in more money. The Superintendent said, "Yes" and explained that the expansion application will be out in March.

Mr. Dorsett inquired if we have identified other places for expansion. The Superintendent said that we will be working on that very soon and giving private providers the chance to plan for September of 2021.

Mr. Smith inquired where other possibilities are in house. The Superintendent explained that two classrooms in district are being devoted to this program currently and we are looking for other options leading into the next school year.

The Superintendent said that we are in the process of identifying students who fit certain SES criteria. The Board further discussed implementation of the program within the coming weeks.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education of the Borough of North Arlington, in the County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, this Special Public Meeting of December 23, 2020 adjourned at 1:55 pm.

On Motion by Mr. Smith, second by Mr. Dorsett. There was no Discussion. On Roll Call all Board Members present voted in the affirmative and none in the negative, it was so ordered.

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