

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

PUBLIC WORK SESSION

March 15, 2021

5:30 p.m.

High School Gymnasium

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

II. **ROLL CALL**

Mr. Smith	<u>Present</u>
Mr. McDermott	<u>Present</u>
Mrs. Higgins	<u>Present</u>
Mrs. Gilgallon	<u>5:40 p.m.</u>
Mr. Dorsett	<u>Present</u>

III.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

IV. **STATEMENT OF PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE**

This Public Meeting of March 15, 2021, 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 7, 2021 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.

1. The Superintendent stated that a survey would be going out regarding moving in-person instruction to four days a week. He said that the Health Department supports this decision in relation to the recent decline in numbers. Mr. Smith asked if we spoke to the NAEA about it. The Superintendent said that they are aware.
2. The Superintendent reviewed the numbers of students assigned to virtual versus in-person instruction at each school.
3. The Superintendent discussed the 2021-2022 academic calendar with the Board and informed the Board that he would be sharing the calendar draft with the President of the NAEA.
4. The Superintendent discussed substitute teacher rates. He said that we are on par with Southern Bergen County school districts. The consensus was to keep the rate as is.
5. The Superintendent said that he was contacted by the Bishop from Living Water Church who inquired about utilizing the Washington School parking lot, as he had done in previous years during Sunday mass. The Superintendent suggested filling out facility request forms and that this procedure would be utilized by the Veterans Middle School parking lot as well for Queen of Peace Church. The Board supported this approach, but logistics of ballards and chains still had to be finalized.
6. The Superintendent updated the Board on CTE Program research. He stated that we are trying to take a trip to a Monmouth Ocean Vocational School within the next 2-3 weeks. He said that they have an automotive, plumbing and electric programs. The Superintendent invited any two Board Members who were available to come along with him when the date and time are scheduled.

7. The Superintendent discussed final exams for Middle School and High School. He suggested that we follow as we did last year and cancel the final exams. The Board supported this approach.
8. The Superintendent discussed a rumor that SACC would not be hosting a summer day camp. He said that he spoke with Barbara Kaiser who said that she would be open to doing a survey after spring break to determine how many families would be interested and then determine if it would be financially possible.

The Superintendent announced that Michael Burke, Director of Special Education was going to be discussing Leveled Literacy Intervention (LLI) and Care Plus.

9. Mr. Burke discussed documents which were given to each Board Member earlier at the meeting regarding Care Plus. He said that the program would be in collaboration with the Guidance Department. He said that this would be the initiative for the 2021-2022 school year. He reviewed the documentation with the Board. Mrs. Higgins and Mrs. Gilgallon both spoke very highly of the program.
10. Mr. Burke updated the Board on LLI. He thanked them for the purchase of the LLI kits. He discussed the necessity of purchasing more kits for the lower elementary level to enhance our ability to give the program to our BSI and IRS students as well. Mr. Burke suggested the purchase of K-1 and 2 kits for Washington, Roosevelt, and Susan B. Anthony Schools. The Superintendent asked Mr. Burke how many kits he thought he would need to purchase for the grades 3-5 population. Mr. Burke said the kits for the K-1 and 2, and the 3-5 would cost approximately \$26,000 to \$35,000 for Washington, Roosevelt and Susan B. Anthony Elementary Schools in total. However, adding the additional kits for grades 3-5, for each of those buildings, would equate to approximately \$20,000 per building, in total. Mrs. Higgins said that it's worth every penny.
11. Mr. Dorsett inquired about the crew volunteer. The Superintendent said that the volunteer was well-respected within the crew community.
12. Mrs. Higgins inquired about a Middle School leave replacement being paid as a long-term sub and not as a leave. The Superintendent said that the certificates have not been processed yet.
13. Mrs. Higgins inquired about Child Study Team charges for evaluations. The Superintendent said that it was for a maternity leave in the Speech Department that have not been filled after several weeks of searching.

Motion to go into Executive Session at 6:15 p.m. made by Mr. Smith, second by Mrs. Higgins. There was no discussion. On Roll Call all Board Members present voted in the affirmative and none in the negative, it was so ordered.

Respectfully,

Samantha Dembowski
SD:at