

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

PUBLIC WORK SESSION

April 29, 2024

5:46 p.m.

Board of Education Office

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

Mr. Smith	<u>Present</u>
Mrs. Gilgallon	<u>Present</u>
Mr. Dorsett	<u>Present</u>
Mrs. Higgins	<u>Present</u>
Mr. McDermott	<u>Present</u>
Student Board Member	<u>Absent</u>

III. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

IV. STATEMENT OF PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

This Public Meeting of April 29, 2024, 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 4, 2024 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 last year we ranked number 98 in public high schools in the State of New Jersey. He said that this year we ranked number 73 of high schools in the State of New Jersey. He added that we are considered around the 30th best traditional high school in the State of New Jersey. The board stated that this is great news. The Superintendent stated that we are very proud of this continued growth.
2. The Superintendent handed out growth charts for the Board to review. He called in Mrs. Rodriguez-Torrento to review ELA/Math data in relation to IXL.

Samantha Rodriguez-Torrento, Director of Curriculum and Instruction PK-12 entered the meeting at 5:48 p.m.

Mrs. Rodriguez-Torrento discussed growth in the NJSLA standards.

Mrs. Rodriguez-Torrento reviewed IXL diagnostic growth. She said that our goal is to go up 10 points per month. She stated that a lot of our grades have exceeded that goal.

Mrs. Higgins inquired if we were looking into any type of Phoenix program to supplement in ELA. Mrs. Rodriguez-Torrento said that we have implemented district wide Orton Giligham training and have incorporated many of these manipulatives into the classrooms. The goal is to have all the teachers OG trained. The Superintendent added that we still use LLI (Leveled Literacy Interventions) district wide to supplement.

Mrs. Rodriguez-Torrento left the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

3. The Superintendent said that he, the School Business Administrator, Mr. Dorsett, and Mr. Smith have been meeting with the Mayor and Council at the end of almost every month to discuss different ventures. He stated that we are slated to have two SROs, one at the high school and the other SRO rotating in one of the other buildings throughout the day for the 2024-2025 school year. The Superintendent also stated that different ideas regarding the middle school field were also discussed, but will be considered at a later time due to costs.

Additionally, the Borough and Board continue to work on a shared service agreement (e.g. recreation, police rotation, and custodian overtime).

4. The Superintendent reminded the Board that a number of students will be acknowledged at the next Board Meeting, which includes high school and middle school honor roll recognition and Bergen Community College student recognition. He also stated that the BCC graduation will be taking place on May 14th for this current cohort.
5. The School Business Administrator reminded the Board that the Teacher of the Year dinner will be on Wednesday, May 22nd, and if they have not already done so, to be sure to respond to their invitations.
6. The School Business Administrator stated that she registered all Board Members for the School Boards Conference that will be taking place from October 21st to October 24th 2024.
7. The School Business Administrator discussed moving the July Board Meeting to another date due to scheduling conflicts. She will get back to the Board with replacement dates.
8. The Superintendent discussed PDPs. He said that there will be a DEAC meeting this week. He said that we carried over two items from the previous year to ensure these goals are sustained.
9. The Superintendent said that the senior class students approached Mr. Bott and Mr. Kenny to discuss seating arrangements for their parents during graduation. The senior class asked that the parents are not seated behind them, but would rather have them placed on the side of the field so that they parents would get a better view of the students walking on the stage. The Board agreed to their suggestion. Mr. Dorsett suggested that a memo go out to all the parents to let them know that this is what the senior class requested for their graduation. The Superintendent and Board also discussed whether or not to have a speaker present at the graduation ceremony and decided to bypass a guest speaker until further notice.
10. Mrs. Higgins inquired about maternity leave, FMLA, and salary. The School Business Administrator explained the process.
11. Mr. Smith inquired about summer salaries for Administrators. The School Business Administrator explained the general contractual terms and responsibilities.
12. Mrs. Higgins inquired about per diem rates for nurses in relation to the CDRSS reporting. The Superintendent said that it is a requirement that has to be submitted every Wednesday by 5:00 p.m. The Board discussed consolidating this task in 2024/2025.

Motion to move to Executive Session at 6:23 p.m. made by Mr. Smith second by Mr. McDermott. 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