

BOARD OF EDUCATION
WEST ESSEX REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
January 22, 2024
Board Secretary's Memorandum

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 5:30 PM

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-11, permits boards of education to meet in closed session to discuss certain matters;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the West Essex Regional Board of Education adjourns to Executive Session to discuss Personnel, Student, Negotiations and/or Litigation matters; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that public release of these discussions will occur when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

OPEN MEETING:

The Board will reconvene from Executive Session and Ms. Maryadele Wojtowicz, President, will preside and voice the call to order at 7:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL:

Ms. B. Buccino
Ms. L. Cristobal
Ms. D. Holinstat
Mr. F. Perrotti
Ms. D. Sacco-Calderone – Vice President
Mr. J. Schaer
Mr. R. Stampone
Ms. M. Wojtowicz –President

Administration:

Mr. Damion Macioci, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Melissa Kida, Board Secretary/Business Administrator

PUBLIC NOTICE OF MEETING:

Notice of the January 22, 2024 meeting of the Board of Education was e-mailed to the Clerks of the Boroughs of Essex Fells, North Caldwell and Roseland and to the Township of Fairfield, and to the editor of The Progress on January 5, 2024 and The Star Ledger on the same day.

West Essex Regional Board of Education
 AGENDA– January 22, 2024

Motion by _____ Seconded by _____ to approve the following motion:

To approve the resignation of **Brian Trauman** from the West Essex Regional Board of Education effective January 8, 2024.

ROLL CALL: Yes:
 No:
 Abstain:
 Absent:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The following unfinished business motions are made at the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools:

CONSENT AGENDA

Anything placed on this agenda, Items **1 - 3**, will be voted upon in one motion.
 Motion by _____ Seconded by _____ to approve the following motions:

1. **BOARD COMMITTEES & DELEGATES**

RESOLVED, that the West Essex Regional School District Board of Education approves the following Board Committees and Delegates, from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024:

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION	FINANCE & PHYSICAL PLANT MGMT
Frank Perrotti, Chair	Raphael Stampone, Chair
Bethany Buccino	Deborah Sacco-Calderone
Debbie Holinstat	Jonathan Schaer
POLICY	SAFETY & SECURITY
Bethany Buccino, Chair	Jonathan Schaer, Chair
Laila Cristobal	Frank Perrotti
	Raphael Stampone

NEGOTIATIONS – WECMA
Debbie Holinstat, Chair
Deborah Sacco-Calderone
Maryadele Wojtowicz

[NOTE: Ms. Wojtowicz, Board President, is an ex-officio member of all Committees.]

2. **DELEGATE TO COUNTY SBA**

RESOLVED, that the West Essex Regional School District Board of Education approves **Debbie Holinstat** as Delegate to the Essex County School Boards Association, at the recommendation of the Board President, from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024.

West Essex Regional Board of Education
AGENDA– January 22, 2024

3. DELEGATE TO NJSBA

RESOLVED, that the West Essex Regional School District Board of Education approves **Maryadele Wojtowicz** and **Deborah Sacco-Calderone** as Delegates to the New Jersey School Boards Association, at the recommendation of the Board President, from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024.

BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

- **Principal’s Reports**

COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS:

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS/COMMENTS: (any new or old business)

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Ms. Wojtowicz will open the floor to the public for comments on agenda items.

(In accordance with Bylaw #0167, a copy of which is available on the District’s website, the Board is now opening the meeting for a period of public comment. Please remember to announce your name, place of residence, and group affiliation, if appropriate. Your statements will be limited to three (3) minutes in duration. The Board will, of course, consider your comments as they relate to its obligations to effectively govern the West Essex School District.)

ROLL CALL: Yes:
 No:
 Abstain:
 Absent:

West Essex Regional Board of Education
FINANCE– January 22, 2024

The following finance motions are made at the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools:

CONSENT AGENDA

Anything placed on this agenda, Items 1- 5, will be voted upon in one motion.

Motion by _____ Seconded by _____ to approve the following motions:

1. To approve the Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for **December, 2023**, in the amount of **\$23,355,543.31** Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(a), the West Essex Regional School District Board of Education acknowledges receipt of the secretary's certification, and after review of the monthly financial report (appropriations section) certifies that, to the best of its knowledge, as of **December, 2023**, no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(b), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Enclosures 1F – 51F

2. To approve the bills and claims **check number 053335 and check number 053343 through check number 053458 and check number 053465 through check number 053569.**
Payroll check number 501190 and check number 501191 and check number 510749 and check number 510750.
Void check numbers 055249, 053337 through 053342, 053459 through 053464,
Totaling: \$2,466,717.36

Enclosures 52F – 58F

3. To approve the **Student Activity Check Register** from January 3, 2024 through January 19, 2024, **check number 15507 through check number 15588.**
Void Check Numbers: None
Totaling: \$31,744.68

Enclosures 59F-67F

4. To approve the Reorganization Meeting Minutes of **January 4, 2024.**

Enclosures 68F – 83F

5. To approve the Executive Session Minutes of **January 4, 2024.**

Enclosure 84F

West Essex Regional Board of Education
FINANCE– January 22, 2024

ROLL CALL: Yes:
 No:
 Abstain:
 Absent:

West Essex Regional Board of Education
 BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – January 22, 2024

The following building & grounds motions are made at the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools:

CONSENT AGENDA

Anything placed on this agenda, Item 1, will be voted upon in one motion.

Motion by _____ Seconded by _____ to approve the following motions:

- To approve the following application for **Use of Facilities** with the appropriate fees in accordance with **Board Policy #7510**:

Organization	Priority	Event	Facilities	Date(s)	Fees
Fairfield Recreation	3	Volleyball Clinic	High School Main Gym	Sundays 1/14, 1/21/ 1/28/ 2/4, 2/11, 2/25, & 3/3/24	No Cost
Fairfield Recreation	3	Wrestling Tournament	High School Main Gym and Aux Gym	Sundays 02/04 & 02/18/24	No Cost

ROLL CALL:

Yes:

No:

Abstain:

Absent:

**West Essex Regional Board of Education
PERSONNEL – January 22, 2024**

The following personnel motions are made at the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools:

CONSENT AGENDA

Anything placed on this agenda, Items 1- 7, will be voted upon in one motion.

Motion by _____ Seconded by _____ to approve the following motions:

1. To approve the resignation of the following staff member(s):

Name	Position	Reason	Location	Last Day of Employment
Anthony Minnella	Athletic Director	Retirement	WERSD	6/30/2024

2. To approve the appointment(s) of the following staff members, for the 2023/2024 school year, pending receipt of mandatory paperwork in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18-A:6-7.9:

Name	Location/ Position	Tenure Track or Leave Replacement	Replacing or New Position	Guide	Step	Salary/Hourly Rate	Effective Date(s) on or about
Mia Faieta	HS Business Teacher	Tenure Track	Brittany Whitford	WEEA	BA/Step 1-2	\$59,386	1/23/2024

3. To approve the appointment(s) of the following substitute staff members for the 2023/2024 school year, pending receipt of mandatory paperwork in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18-A:6-7.9:

Name	Position	Daily Rate	Effective Date(s)
Carol Storms	Substitute Nurse	\$250/day	1/23/2024
Juliana Morella	Substitute Teacher/Substitute Aide	\$125/day	1/23/2024

4. To approve the following Middle School teacher(s) for a 3/5th's of a 6th period assignment (WE Rise), for the 2023/2024 school year, at the negotiated rate of \$6,300, prorated, as per WEEA contract:

Subject	Teacher	Effective Date
Science 7	Paula Arbadji	01/17/2024

5. To approve the following 2023/2024 Winter Coaching appointments:

Sport	Candidate	Position	Step	Stipend
Boys Basketball	Jason Ahmed	Assistant	5	\$7,771
E-Sports	Michael Johnson	Head Coach	3	\$6,703
E-Sports	Steven Siragusa	Assistant	1	\$4,589

6. To approve the following volunteer coaching appointment for the 2023/2024 Spring season:

Joseph DeGiacomo	Baseball
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West Essex Regional Board of Education
 PERSONNEL – January 22, 2024

7. To approve the following Leave of Absence(s) for the 2023/2024 school year:

Name	Position	Type of Leave	LOA w/ pay	FMLA w/o Pay, w/ Benefits	LOA w/o Pay, w/o Benefits	Return Date, on or about
Olivia Macaluso	WEHS Teacher of English	Medical	02/20/2024 -03/07/2024	03/08/2024 - 06/07/2024	06/10/2024 - 01/31/2025	02/03/2025

ROLL CALL: Yes:
 No:
 Abstain:
 Absent:

West Essex Regional Board of Education
CURRICULUM/SPECIAL EDUCATION – January 22, 2024

The following curriculum/special education motions are made at the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools:

CONSENT AGENDA

Anything placed on this agenda, Item 1, will be voted upon in one motion.

Motion by _____ Seconded by _____ to approve the following motions:

1. To approve the following parent volunteer chaperones for the Middle School Band trip to Tenafly Middle School, on Wednesday, April 24, 2024:

Michael Ciallella	Jenni Fishbein	Anna McLoren	Annie Michalski
Dipti Rand	Allison Stupak	Angela Vega	

ROLL CALL: Yes:
 No:
 Abstain:
 Absent:

West Essex Regional Board of Education
MISCELLANEOUS – January 22, 2024

The following miscellaneous motions are made at the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools:

CONSENT AGENDA

Anything placed on this agenda, Items 1 - 3, will be voted upon in one motion.

Motion by _____ Seconded by _____ to approve the following motions:

1. To approve the following revisions to the **2024/2025 school calendar**:
 - Monday, January 22, 2024 – From Single Session day to Full Day
 - Friday, January 26, 2024 – From Full Day to Single Session Day
(NOTE: Tuesday, January 23, Wednesday, January 24, and Thursday, January 25, 2024 remain Single Session Days)
2. To approve the *amended* 2023/2024 transportation bus routes, as appended.

Enclosures 1M -2M

3. BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby affirms the Superintendent’s decision in HIB Investigation No. 008 (HS) for the reasons set forth in the Superintendent’s Report to the Board and directs the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator to transmit a copy of the Board’s decision to the affected students’ parents forthwith.

ROLL CALL: Yes:
No:
Abstain:
Absent:

BOARD COMMENTS

The Board President will open the floor to the public for comments on agenda or non-agenda items.

(In accordance with Bylaw #0167, a copy of which is available on the District’s website, the Board is now opening the meeting for a period of public comment. Please remember to announce your name, place of residence, and group affiliation, if appropriate. Your statements will be limited to three (3) minutes in duration. The Board will, of course, consider your comments as they relate to its obligations to effectively govern the West Essex School District.)

INTERVIEW OF CANDIDATES FOR THE VACANT NORTH CALDWELL BOARD MEMBER POSITION

(The Board reserves the right to convene in Executive Session immediately following the interviews)

West Essex Regional Board of Education
AGENDA – January 22, 2024

Motion to adjourn by _____ Seconded by _____.

ADJOURN: There being no further business before this Board of Education, BE IT RESOLVED that this public meeting be adjourned and that the Board enters into private session to discuss matters of personnel, negotiations and litigation with the possibility of reconvening to public session to conduct additional business. The matters discussed in executive session will be disclosed to the public when the need to maintain their confidentiality no longer exists.