

**RAMAPO INDIAN HILLS REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Oakland, New Jersey**

**ACTION/WORK SESSION MINUTES
October 12, 2020
Electronic Public Meeting**

Roll Call – Executive Session

Upon roll call at 6 P.M., the Board members responded as follows: Mmes. Laforgia, Sullivan, and Zammitti Shaw. Messrs. Becker, Butto, Carolan, Fortunato, and Kinney. Mr. Bruce Watson, Interim Superintendent of Schools (7 P.M.); and Mr. Frank C. Ceurvels, Business Administrator / Board Secretary; were also present.

The meeting was called to order by the Board president at 6 P.M. Mr. Kinney announced that adequate notice of the meeting has been posted and published as required by law.

A motion was made by Mrs. Laforgia and seconded by Mr. Butto and unanimously carried to move into Closed Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel, litigation, and negotiations. Information from the Closed Executive Session will be made public at the discretion of the Board, as per Board Bylaw 0166, Executive Sessions, or as otherwise authorized by law. The Closed Executive Session was adjourned at 8 P.M.

Roll Call – Action/Work Session

Upon roll call at 8:06 P.M. Board members responded as follows: Mmes. Laforgia, Sullivan, and Zammitti Shaw. Messrs. Becker, Butto, Carolan, Fortunato, and Kinney. Mr. Bruce Watson, Interim Superintendent of Schools; and Mr. Frank C. Ceurvels, Business Administrator / Board Secretary; and were also present.

The meeting was called to order by the Board President at 8:06 P.M. Mr. Kinney announced that due to the current State of Emergency, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-8(b), and guidance from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services, this Meeting was posted and published as a remote meeting. He read a public statement advising the public to be aware that employees of the Ramapo Indian Hills Regional High School District retain the right of privacy and shall retain all rights regarding defamation and slander according to the laws of New Jersey. Mr. Kinney further stated that the Board shall not be held liable for comments made by members of the public and, in order to protect the privacy rights of employees in the District, the Board shall not respond to statements made by the public of or about District employees.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Kinney invited Ms. Patel, IHHS, Student Board Representative, and Ms. Kologrivov, RHS, Student Board Representative, to present their reports as follows: Ms. Patel stated: 1) Fall sports are doing well; 2) Week of Respect was scheduled during the Week of October 5; 3) a College Panel of college representatives was held last week; 4) the ACT and PSAT testing is scheduled; 5) virtual college visits are ongoing; 6) Clubs are beginning to schedule meetings; 7) the Interact Club is hosting shoe and clothing donations for charity and a COVID-19 mask project; 8) laptops are being distributed to students; and 9) the Student Council is holding a planning meeting for Spirit Week during the Week of October 26. Ms. Kologrivov stated: 1) fall sports are doing well; 2) Week of Respect was scheduled during the Week of October 5; 3) the Interact Club is hosting shoe and clothing donations for charity and a COVID-19 mask project; 4) the Film Club is hosting a month of horror films; 5) the Guidance Department is hosting Instant Decision Days for students; 6) the Yearbook is collecting senior quotes; 7) Rampage is working on its first edition of the year; 8) Student Council is planning a Pep Rally for students; and 9) the Production Staff is working on the fall play and auditions are scheduled.

Mr. Kinney stated interviews for the Interim Superintendent position have been scheduled and currently the Board has narrowed the field to three candidates. It is anticipated that a final decision will be made by the end of the month.

Mr. Kinney also stated that the Board had interviewed two candidates for the Oakland Trustee Board seat – Mrs. Vivian King and Mrs. Carmen LeVon. He briefly discussed each candidate. Board discussion followed. The Board named Mrs. Carmen LeVon to the vacant Oakland Trustee Board seat.

Mr. Kinney thanked both Mrs. King and Mrs. LeVon for their interest in serving as a Trustee to the Ramapo Indian Hills Regional High School District Board of Education.

INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Watson discussed the events scheduled at Indian Hills High School and Ramapo High School during the Week of Respect.

Mr. Watson also congratulated the six National Merit Scholarship Award semifinalists – 4 Indian Hills High School students and 2 Ramapo High School students.

Mr. Watson reported that, to date, 22% of the Indian Hills student population and 26% of the Ramapo High School student population have chosen to opt out of hybrid instruction into virtual instruction.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Ceurvels reported on District capital projects/initiatives as follows: 1) the Audit is scheduled to begin in mid-October and is due on December 5; 2) the 21-22 Budget process will begin in December; 3) the Locker Room projects will be closed out by mid-November.

Mr. Ceurvels will continue to update the Board as to the status of these projects/initiatives.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Moved by CAROLAN Seconded ZAMMITTI SHAW to open the meeting to public discussion.

Members of the public thanked the District administration for the manner in which it handled the recent positive COVID-19 case.

A member of the public addressed the Board regarding her concern about her daughter's Anatomy & Physiology class. Mr. Watson stated that the administration is currently seeking coverage for this section.

A member of the public addressed the Board regarding her concern about student attendance at athletic activities. Mr. Watson stated that the District is following the rules established by the NJSIAA.

A member of the public addressed the Board regarding her concern about moving to the next phase of instruction. Mr. Watson stated that after the Thanksgiving Recess District administration will make a decision regarding moving into the next phase.

- B. Moved by CAROLAN Seconded FORTUNATO to close public discussion of agenda items and to re-enter the Action/Work Session.

ACTION ITEMS - ✓ = Yes

The following motion was approved by roll call: P1

Moved by: CAROLAN Seconded: ZAMMITTI SHAW

PERSONNEL

- P1. To approve the resolution as follows:

WHEREAS, Ramapo Indian Hills Regional High School District Board of Education member Teresa Kilday submitted her resignation from the Board effective August 13, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Board has conducted a thorough search process for a replacement for Mrs. Kilday, including public advertisement of the vacancy and interviews of prospective candidates; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to N.J.S.A 18A:12-15 the Ramapo Indian Hills Regional High School District Board of Education hereby appoints Carmen LeVon as a member of the Board of Education to fill the Oakland seat vacancy created by the resignation of Teresa Kilday, for a term to commence immediately upon adoption of this resolution and to continue until the Board’s organization meeting following the 2020 Annual School Election.

P1

RC): Becker ✓, Butto ✓, Carolan ✓, Fortunato ✓,
Laforgia ✓, Sullivan ✓, Zammitti Shaw ✓, Kinney ✓

The following motion was tabled by roll call: **P10**

Moved by: KINNEY Seconded: LAFORGIA

P10. To approve, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the appointment of the following individuals listed below as substitute teachers for the 2020-21 School Year; and move to approve applicants’ attestation that he/she has not been convicted of any disqualifying crime pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et seq., N.J.S.A. 18A:39-17 et seq., N.J.S.A. 18A:6-4.13 et seq., and N.J.S.A. 18A:12-1 et seq.*, as applicable:

Name

Laura Errera/District

JoAnn Irwin/District

Susan Leonard/District

Thomas Madigan/District

Delia Perretta/District

P10

RC): Becker ✓, Butto **NO**, Carolan ✓, Fortunato ✓,
Laforgia ✓, Sullivan ✓, Zammitti Shaw ✓, Kinney ✓

The following motions were approved by roll call: **P2 – P9 & P11 – PO2**

Moved by: CAROLAN Seconded: BECKER

P2. To approve, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the appointment of Lindsey DeLillo, RHS, English, Temporary Replacement Teacher for Jonathan Samarro, a non-tenured position, not accruing tenure in the position, BA, Step 1, \$286.56/diem, effective for the period October 13 - December 23, 2020, and subject to all federal, state, county and local regulations, governing said employment; and further move to approve applicant’s attestation that she has not been convicted of any disqualifying crime pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et seq., N.J.S.A. 18A:39-17 et seq., or N.J.S.A. 18A:6-4.13 et seq.*

P3. To approve, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the salary adjustments for achieving a higher degree level for District staff as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Degree</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Marisa Frissora	MA to MA+15	\$67,993 to \$69,345	September 1, 2020
Erin Wiese	MA+15 to MA+30	\$67,997 to \$69,553	September 1, 2020

- P4. To amend, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the employment date for Sally Binder, RHS, Science, from November 13, 2020 - June 30, 2021, to October 15, 2020 - June 30, 2021.
- P5. To amend, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the employment date for Ellen Levy, Out-of-District, One-to-One Instructional Aide, from October 5, 2020 - June 30, 2021, to October 12, 2020 - June 30, 2021.
- P6. To approve, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the request for an unpaid Family Leave of Absence utilizing The Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) for Ivy Urdang, IHHS, Social Studies, effective for the period October 5 - 23, 2020.
- P7. To approve, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the sixth period teaching assignment for Thomas Jaeger, RHS, Science, Period 5B, at the contractual stipend of \$9,530, pro-rated, effective for the period October 9 - December 17, 2020.
- P8. To approve, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the sixth period teaching assignment for Kim Angerson, RHS, Science, Period 6, at the contractual stipend of \$9,530, pro-rated, effective for the period October 9 - December 17, 2020.
- P9. To amend, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the request for a paid Maternity Leave of Absence (Presumptive Period of Disability), utilizing unused sick leave as allowed by law, for Kathleen Steier, RHS, English, effective on or about September 1 - November 4, 2020; further move to approve an unpaid Family Leave of Absence utilizing The Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) effective on or about November 5, 2020 - February 3, 2021; and further move to approve an unpaid Childrearing Leave of Absence effective on or about February 4 - June 30, 2021.
- P11. To approve, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the appointment of the following individuals listed below as bedside instructors for the 2020-21 School Year, and move to approve applicants' attestation that she has not been convicted of any disqualifying crime pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et seq.*, *N.J.S.A. 18A:39-17 et seq.*, or *N.J.S.A. 18A:6-4.13 et seq.*, as applicable:

Name

JoAnn Irwin/District

Susan Leonard/District

- P12. To amend, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the appointment of District Special School Advisors as follows:
- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| Jill Matcovich, RHS | from Teens Need Teens, Step 4, \$3,056, effective for the period September 1 - November 24, 2020, to Teens Need Teens, Step 4, \$3,056, effective for the 2020-21 School Year. |
| Keri Myones, RHS | from Newspaper Online, \$1,615, effective for the period September 1 - November 24, 2020, to Newspaper Online, \$1,615, effective for the 2020-21 School Year. |
- P13. To approve, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, District Volunteer Clubs and Advisors effective for the 2020-21 School Year as follows:

Indian Hills High School

<u>Club</u>	<u>Advisor</u>
Poetry Out Loud	Edith LaChac/Marisa Frissora

Ramapo High School

Mountain Bike Club	Richard Burton
Ramapo Yoga/Stretch	Alexandra Tomaselli
WISE (Women in Science & Engineering)	Rebecca Gordy

- P14. To accept, with regret, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the resignation of Michelle Gramazio, IHHS, Special Education, effective December 4, 2020.
- P15. To amend, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the resignation date for Vincent Nguyen, RHS, Science, from October 30, 2020 to October 16, 2020.
- P16. To amend, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the retirement date for Laura Dantoni, District, Family & Consumer Science, from November 30, 2020 to December 31, 2020.

EDUCATION

- E1. To approve, in accordance with Chapter 46, Title 18A, New Jersey Statutes, and on the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, District Director of Student Personnel Services, and District Child Study Team that tuition and/or related services be paid for the students listed below to attend the schools indicated and at the tuition costs indicated for the 2020-21 School Year as follows:

<u>Student No.</u>	<u>Placement</u>	<u>Tuition</u>
422680	East Mountain School	\$58,140.00
424618	Ramsey Board of Education	\$29,684.48 ¹
421650	Paramus Board of Education	\$12,480.50 ²
424656	Paramus Board of Education	\$12,480.50 ²

¹Includes Extended School Year

²Extended School Year Only

FINANCE

- F1. To approve, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the resolution as follows:

WHEREAS, District employees have submitted requests for reimbursement for work-related travel that is directly related to and within the scope of the employees' current work responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, the Board has previously authorized such work-related travel, and the District's school business administrator or designee has reviewed the documentation submitted by the employee and found same to be in compliance with the Board's policy provisions and approval requirements; and

WHEREAS, the travel requests listed below specifies for each item of reimbursement the specific promotion of delivery of instruction or furtherance of the efficient operation of the school district, and the amount of each listed reimbursement does not exceed State travel reimbursement guidelines;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, in accordance with the provisions of Board Policy and *N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq.*, that the Board of Education hereby approves work-related travel reimbursement to its employees as set forth below:

<u>Req. No.</u>	<u>Employee</u>	<u>Conference</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Expenses</u>
D20-07	Butto	NJSBA Virtual Conference	October 20-22, 2020	\$200
D20-07	Fortunato	NJSBA Virtual Conference	October 20-22, 2020	\$200
D20-07	Kinney	NJSBA Virtual Conference	October 20-22, 2020	\$200
D20-07	Sullivan	NJSBA Virtual Conference	October 20-22, 2020	\$200
D20-07	Zammitti Shaw	NJSBA Virtual Conference	October 20-22, 2020	\$200

EACH BOARD MEMBER PRESENT ABSTAINED FROM VOTING ON THEIR OWN TRAVEL EXPENSES FOR THE UPCOMING OCTOBER 20 – 22, 2020 NEW JERSEY SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION VIRTUAL CONFERENCE.

POLICY

PO1. To approve, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the first reading of new and revised District Policies as follows:

<u>Policy Title</u>	<u>Policy No.</u>
Domestic Violence	1581
Health and Physical Education	2422
Postnatal Accommodations	3421.13
Postnatal Accommodations	4421.13
Reporting Potentially Missing or Abused Children	8462

PO2. To approve, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, revised District Bylaw 0152, Board Officers.

P2 – P9 & P11 – PO2

RC): Becker ✓, Butto ✓, Carolan ✓, Fortunato ✓,
Laforgia ✓, Sullivan ✓, Zammitti Shaw ✓, Kinney ✓

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Becker reported that the members of the Education Committee met on October 8 to discuss agenda items as follows: 1) Standardized Test Scores and 2) UP Programs. An Education Committee Meeting is scheduled on November 12.

Mrs. Zammitti Shaw reported that the members of the Policy Committee met earlier this evening to discuss District Policies and Regulations.

Mr. Fortunato stated that a Facilities Committee Meeting will be scheduled some time next week.

Ms. Sullivan reported that the members of the Ad Hoc Superintendent Search Committee met throughout the month to discuss the Interim Superintendent Search.

Mr. Butto reported that a Finance Committee Meeting is scheduled on October 28.

Mr. Carolan reported that the Strategic Plan Committee is currently gathering materials for review prior to its next meeting.

BOARD COMMENTS

Members of the Board thanked Mr. Watson for his leadership during the transition from virtual to the Hybrid Schedule.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

A. Moved by CAROLAN Seconded FORTUNATO to open the meeting to public discussion.

A member of the public addressed the Board regarding her concern about the start of the Winter Athletic season. Mr. Watson stated that he will be meeting with the Athletic Directors in the near future.

B. Moved by CAROLAN Seconded BECKER to re-enter the Action/Work Session.

ANTICIPATED FUTURE MEETING DATES

Mr. Kinney announced anticipated future meeting dates as follows:

Wednesday, October 14, 2020, Executive Session, Electronic Meeting, 5 P.M.

Wednesday, October 21, 2020, Executive Session, Electronic Meeting, 5 P.M.

Monday, October 26, 2020, Regular Public Meeting, Electronic Meeting, 8 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by CAROLAN Seconded: ZAMMITTI SHAW to adjourn at 9:36 P.M.