# TOWNSHIP OF UNION BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 21, 2023 - 7:00 p.m.

#### NOTICE OF MEETING:

#### TO ALL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS:

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Township of Union was held on Tuesday, February 21, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the Union High School Library, 2350 North Third Street, Union, New Jersey pursuant to notice sent to each member.

Ms. McKenzie called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

#### PRESENT AT ROLL CALL:

Mrs. Yocasta Brens-Watson, Ms. Dicxiana Carbonell, Ms. Marissa McKenzie, Mrs. Nancy Minneci, Mr. John O'Shea, Mrs. Nellis Regis-Darby, Ms. Chastity Santana, Mrs. Kimberly Scott-Hayden

#### ABSENT AT ROLL CALL:

Mrs. Mary Lynn Williams (arrived at 7:30 p.m.)

#### ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Dr. Scott Taylor, Mr. Gerald Benaquista, Dr. Gretel Perez, Mrs. Yolanda Koon

#### **ALSO PRESENT:**

Mr. Lester Taylor, Esq.

Mr. O'Shea led the Board and audience members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Koon read the statement required under the "Open Public Meetings Act" that adequate notice was published in The Union County Local Source, The Star Ledger and/or Tap into Union, posted in the Administration Building and the Clerk's Office of the Township; a copy of which is on file in the office of the Board Secretary.

Mr. O'Shea read the district's mission statement.

#### COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC ON RESOLUTIONS:

None

#### Approval of Minutes:

Moved by Mrs. Minneci, seconded by Ms. Santana, that the following minutes be adopted:

- 1. December 13, 2022 Worksession
- 2. December 13, 2022 Executive Session #1 and #2
- 3. December 20, 2022 Regular Meeting

#### 4. December 20, 2022 – Executive Session

#### DISCUSSION:

None

AYE: Mrs. Brens-Watson, Mrs. Minneci, Mr. O'Shea, Mrs. Regis-Darby, Ms. Santana,

Mrs. Scott-Hayden, Mrs. Williams, Ms. McKenzie

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Ms. Carbonell MOTION CARRIED

#### Communications:

#### REQUEST FROM TOWNSHIP OF UNION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Letter from Township of Union Chamber of Commerce requesting the use of the Union High School facility site for the Chamber's 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Mayor's Day 5K Run on Sunday, September 24, 2023.

# REQUEST FROM ROTARY CLUB

Letter from Rotary Club of Union requesting the use of Union High School classrooms and athletic fields on May 23, 2023 for Family Fitness Festival.

# REQUEST FROM TOWNSHIP OF UNION POLICE DEPARTMENT

Request from the Township of Union Police Department to use the main gymnasium at Union High School for a fundraising basketball game on March 31, 2023 from 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

#### LETTER OF RETIREMENT - SCHWAB

Letter of resignation, for the purpose of retirement, from Paul Schwab, electrician/plumber/HVAC-maintenance department, effective September 1, 2023.

#### LETTER OF RESIGNATION – BRITES

Letter of resignation from Maria Brites, cafeteria/playground aide-Washington Elementary School, effective January 4, 2023.

#### LETTER OF RETIREMENT - BRYANS

Letter of resignation, for the purpose of retirement, from Ermalinda Bryans, paraprofessional-Battle Hill Elementary School, effective July 1, 2023.

#### LETTER OF RESIGNATION - CARO

Letter of resignation from Luis Caro, part-time bus driver-Transportation Department, effective December 28, 2022.

#### LETTER OF RETIREMENT - DOYLE

Letter of resignation, for the purpose of retirement from Jolie Doyle, kindergarten teacher-Livingston Elementary School, effective July 1, 2023.

#### LETTER OF RETIREMENT UPDATE - FILAN

Update to letter of resignation, for the purpose of retirement, from Mark Filan, general and vocal music teacher-Connecticut Farms Elementary School, new effective April 1, 2023.

#### LETTER OF RETIREMENT – KORBA

Letter of resignation, for the purpose of retirement, from Maria Korba, special education teacher-Connecticut Farms Elementary School, effective July 1, 2023.

#### LETTER OF RETIREMENT – LAU

Letter of resignation, for the purpose of retirement, from Jenny Lau, vocal music teacher-Livingston Elementary School, effective February 1, 2023.

#### LETTER OF RESIGNATION – PUORRO

Letter of resignation from Matt Puorro, health and physical education teacher-Hannah Caldwell Elementary School, effective March 6, 2023.

#### LETTER OF RESIGNATION - ROBINSON

Letter of resignation from Kelly Robinson, first grade teacher-Battle Hill Elementary School, effective January 4, 2023.

#### REQUEST FOR LEAVE EXTENSION – WOJCIK

Request for extension of paid medical leave from Karen Wojcik, secretary-Battle Hill Elementary School, January 30, 2023-February 28, 2023.

# REQUEST FOR LEAVE – BERNARDES

Request for paid medical leave from Joao Bernardes, English teacher-Burnet Middle School, January 17, 2023-February 15, 2023.

#### REQUEST FOR LEAVE – PERMISON

Request for paid child rearing leave followed by unpaid FMLA/NJFLA (concurrently) from Daiana Permison, Spanish teacher-Union High School, May 5, 2023 to October 31, 2023.

#### REQUEST FOR LEAVE EXTENSION – MELCHIONNA

Request for extension of paid medical leave from Antonella Melchionna, part-time accountant-Business Office, January 16, 2023-February 20, 2023.

#### REQUEST FOR INTERMITTENT LEAVE – BRUNS MEYERS

Request for intermittent FMLA/NJFLA (concurrently) leave from Kathleen Bruns Meyers, preschool teacher-Livingston Elementary School, February 15, 2023-May 15, 2023

#### REQUEST FOR LEAVE – BURD

Request for paid child rearing leave followed by unpaid FMLA/NJFLA (concurrently) from Diana Burd, special education teacher-Jefferson School, April 24, 2023-October 30, 2023.

# REQUEST FOR LEAVE – BARTOLO

Request for paternity leave from Cesar Bartolo, maintenance-grounds man-Administration Building, February 15, 2023 to May 10, 2023.

#### REQUEST FOR LEAVE – MARKEL

Request for paid child rearing leave followed by unpaid FMLA/NJFLA (concurrently) from Jennifer Markel, first-grade teacher-Livingston Elementary School, April 17, 2023-November 3, 2023.

#### REQUEST FOR LEAVE – SOUSA

Request for paid medical leave from Tereza Sousa, first grade teacher-Franklin Elementary School, February 1, 2023-February 13, 2023.

# REQUEST FOR INTERMITTENT LEAVE – FIORITO

Request for intermittent FMLA/NJFLA (concurrently) leave from Jessica Fiorito, social studies teacher-Union High School, January 26, 2023-June 20, 2023.

# REQUEST FOR LEAVE - JOHNSON

Request for paid child rearing leave followed by unpaid FMLA/NJFLA (concurrently) from Jamie Johnson, second grade teacher-Washington Elementary School, May 5, 2023-November 24, 2023.

#### REQUEST FOR LEAVE - COCO

Request for paid medical leave from Lauren Coco, first grade teacher-Hannah Caldwell Elementary School, January 20, 2023-February 9, 2023.

# REQUEST FOR LEAVE - GIGANTE

Request for paid medical leave from David Gigante, special education teacher-Union High School, January 30, 2023-February 16, 2023.

#### REQUEST FOR LEAVE – GHAZALI

Request for paid child rearing leave followed by unpaid FMLA/NJFLA (concurrently) from Sabine Ghazali, math teacher-Union High School, June 1, 2023-June 30, 2024.

#### REQUEST FOR INTERMITTENT LEAVE – DERING

Request for intermittent paternity leave from Steven Dering, physical education teacher-Burnet Middle School, March 3, 2023-May 19, 2023.

#### REQUEST FOR LEAVE – SHARPE

Request for paid medical leave followed by unpaid FMLA from Courtney Sharpe, kindergarten teacher-Battle Hill Elementary School, February 23, 2023-April 24, 2023.

#### REQUEST FOR LEAVE – NAVATA

Request for paternity leave from Marvin Navata, physical education teacher-Burnet Middle School, March 6, 2023-June 6, 2023.

# REQUEST FOR LEAVE – KRUPA

Request for paid medical leave followed by unpaid FMLA from Victoria Krupa, 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher-Jefferson School, February 17, 2023-April 17, 2023.

#### REQUEST FOR LEAVE – BOEGERSHAUSEN

Request for paid medical leave followed by unpaid FMLA from Britt Boegershausen, pre-k teacher-Connecticut Farms Elementary School, January 30, 2023-March 6, 2023.

# Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Taylor recognized high school security guard Richard Shubert for saving the life of one of our students who had something lodged in his throat. He performed the hymnic maneuver and saved his life. Mr. Shubert was given a Certificate of Appreciation from the district.

Principal Jason Malanda introduced Lisa Ashraf and Nicole Dixon who are the advisors for Girls Who Code. The members are Victoria Amorim, Brielle Baako Boafo, Adannaya Emenyeonu, Khyiera Sharmbe' Prince, Emilie Rodrigues, Leila Roman, Sofia Simoes and Ava Tran. Girls Who Code created a website called "A Tasty Trip Around the Township of Union". It celebrates the diverse population of Union and shows the many different foods from different cultures.

Principal Malanda stated that all our staff members go above and beyond daily and that is what makes Kawameeh such a special place. Kawameeh's spotlighted teacher is Lisa Ashraf, a school counselor who excels at what she does. She has an open-door policy and her office is always filled with students throughout the day. She is kind and thoughtful and always ready to jump in and help out. In addition to counseling, she handles coordinating state testing and is an advior in the Origami Club, Girls Who Code Club and Peer Leaders. She is an integral part of our school community.

Dr. Jim Campora owner of Mathnasium, The Math Learning Center, in Union gave a presentation about making math accessible to all children and help reinforce what they are learning in school.

Aracely DiGiolamo and Carla Vicari, co-chairs of SEPAG – Special Education Parent Advisory Group of Union, presented to the Board and community. SEPAG is a requirement for every school district in New Jersey according to NJAC 6A:14-1.2(h). It is not a parent support group, it is part of the local school district. SEPAG collaborates with the district administrators to positively affect policies, practices and programs for students with disability. Promotes inclusion of students with special needs in the school and the community and serves as a resource to parents and guardians. A copy of the presentation is appended to the minutes.

Mrs. Williams arrived at meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Dr. Taylor gave the following updates:

Winter Sports: Girls basketball made it to the state tournament, seeded 10thp; Alissa Alcindor finished second in the Region 2 Girls State Wrestling Tournament and qualified for the

state championships in Phillipsburg; Gabriel Rodriguez won the Group 4 Championships in the 800 meter run and signed with Rutgers; Girls 4x400 meter relay team finished 3<sup>rd</sup> at Group 4 Championships and qualified for Meet of Champions.

- HIB Report January 10-February 21 12 founded; 17 unfounded
- Bi-Annual Report September-December 2022 period 1 32 founded, 28 unfounded

Nicole Ahern, Supervisor of Counseling and the Anti-Bullying Coordinator for the district stated that the reporting is mandated twice a year. The state self-assessment for HIB compliance drives the programming for the schools for the following school year. Delivery of services are provided in a variety of ways to meet the needs of the district; including assemblies, parent programs, small group counseling, integration into classrooms, districtwide events and professional development opportunities.

The objective is to be proactive in the creation of specialized programs to meet the needs with the end goal of improving school climate and reducing incidents of HIB. Counseling services are mandated for all parties involved in all allegations of HIB.

Dr. Taylor stated we need to improve the culture and climate and Ms. Hoykowski is sharing her restorative practices with Kawameeh and Burnet Middle Schools.

Board members had questions regarding if permission was given to students regarding Silas and asked about training for adults and who receives Silas. Mrs. Ahern stated it is only used in small groups and students need consent. There are a minimum of 2 mandatory meetings – parents, ABS, Administrators and they evaluate the date to see what is needed. All schools have access to Silas.

Ms. Santana stated thank you for being proactive with HIB

Dr. Taylor stated the Student Safety Data System (SSDS) Report – September-December 2022 – period 1 – Violence 1; Vandalism 3; Substances 84; Weapons 6.

Vaping – is an epidemic. There are various programs to educate students, parents/guardians and personnel. Presentation is appended to minutes.

# Education/Student Discipline Committee Resolutions:

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following resolutions were moved by Ms. Carbonell, seconded by Mrs. Minneci, for adoption:

- E-1. Reported at February 16, 2023 worksession (Superintendent's Report of HIB).
- E-1A. Approved at February 16, 2023 worksession (Superintendent's Determination of HIB).

#### E-1-1. AFFIRM SUPERINTENDENT'S DETERMINATION OF HIB

Affirm the Superintendent's determination of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB) for the periods January 18, 2023 to February 16, 2023, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

#### E-1-1A. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT OF HIB

Superintendent's Report of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB) for the period February 17, 2023 to February 21 2023, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes (*no vote required; for reporting purposes only*).

#### E-2. APPROVE STUDENT SAFETY DATA SYSTEM REPORT

Approve the Student Safety Data System Report (formerly Violence and Vandalism Report) (SSDS) for period one (September 1-December 31, 2022) of the 2022-2023 school year, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

# E-3. APPROVE LOCATIONS FOR EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR

Approve Battle Hill Elementary School (July 2023) and Hamilton Building (June 21, 2023-August 31, 2023) for Extended School Year Program (ESY), ESY services, CST testing and/or home instruction.

# E-4. APPROVE LOCATION FOR CST TESTING

Approve Hamilton Building for CST testing and/or home instruction for the 2022-2023 school year.

E-5. Agenda item tabled at February 16, 2023 workession (school calendar for the 2023-2024 school year).

#### DISCUSSION:

None

AYE: Mrs. Brens-Watson, Ms. Carbonell, Mrs. Minneci, Mr. O'Shea,

Mrs. Regis-Darby, Ms. Santana, Mrs. Scott-Hayden, Mrs. Williams, Ms. McKenzie

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None MOTION CARRIED

#### Fiscal and Planning Committee Resolutions:

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following resolutions were moved by Mr. O'Shea, seconded by Ms. Carbonell, for adoption:

#### F-1. TREASURER'S REPORT

That the Treasurer's Report dated January 31, 2023 be accepted.

#### F-2. SECRETARY'S REPORT

That the Secretary's Report dated January 31, 2023 be accepted.

## F-3. CERTIFY TREASURER'S AND SECRETARY'S REPORT

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(a), I certify that as of January 31, 2023 no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district Board of education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8 and 18:22-8.1.

/S/ Uolanda Koon	
Yolanda Koon, Board Secretary	Dated

Pursuant to N.J.A.C.6A:23-2.2(h), we certify that as of January 31, 2023 after review of the secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials that to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.2(d)3 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. This certification is solely based on the information provided by the School Business Administrator and Board Secretary and is assumed by the Board to be correct.

#### F-4. APPROVE APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS

Approve appropriation transfers in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

# F-5. APPROVE LIST OF CONTRACTS/PURCHASE ORDERS

Approve the attached list of contracts and/or purchase orders pursuant to the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5 (bid exceptions to requirement for advertising) and 18A:18A-10(a) (purchase through State agency; procedure), in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

#### F-6. APPROVE DISTRICT WIDE TRAVEL AND RELATED EXPENSES

Approve district wide travel and related expenses pursuant to the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7 and Board Policy File Code 6471 and in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

F-7. Approved at February 16, 2023 worksession (districtwide student field trips).

# F-8. APPROVE LIST OF 2022-2023 STATE CONTRACT VENDORS

Approve the amended list of the 2022-2023 State Contract Vendors pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-10(a) (purchase through State agency; procedure) to facilitate schools' purchasing, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

#### F-9. APPROVED LIST OF CONTRACTS/PURCHASES (STUDENT ACTIVITY)

Approve the attached list of contracts and/or purchases pursuant to the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5(21) (paid by funds raised by or collected by students), in accordance with the information appended to the minutes:

School	Account/Department	Vendor/Description	Amount
Union High School	2077/Theatre	Hayden Production Services –	\$15,000.00 (not
		lighting equipment rental for	to exceed)
		UHSPAC production of Mama Mia	

Union High School	46/Clubs at UHS	New Jersey Key Club – payment	\$3,790.00 (not to
		for Key Club convention in	exceed)
		Princeton	
Union High School	2066/Special Education	Hard Rock Café NYC – for Unify	\$1,700.00
		event	
Union High School	2066/Special Education	New Amsterdam Theatre – Unified	\$3,392.50
		trip to Aladdin	
Union High School	Career & Technical Ed.	Questex – IBS show on March 7,	\$1,102.00
		2023	

# F-10. APPROVE 2022-2023 OUT-OF-DISTRICT STUDENT PLACEMENT LIST

Approval be given to amend the 2022-2023 out-of-district student placement list, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

# F-11. APPROVE FUNDRAISERS

Approve the following fundraisers, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes:

Event Name	Date	Purpose
Mama Mia Concessions Sale	March 23-26, 2023	UHS/PAC – to raise funds for production
		costs
Snack Sales	March 2023-May	UHS/Step Team – to raise funds for uniforms
	2023	and varsity jackets
Winter Bonfire	March 9, 2023 (rain	UHS/Farmer Fam/UMatter – to celebrate
	date March 10,	winter activities and raise funds for future
	2023)	events
Flower Grams	February 23-March	UHS/Junior Class – to raise funds for the
	23, 2023	junior class
Catch a Cupid	February 1-28, 2023	UHS/Dance Team – to raise funds for
		costumes and performance opportunities
Concessions Sale	March 1-May 7,	UHS/Marching Band/UHSPAC – to raise
	2023	funds for future productions
Valentine Treat Sale	February 9-13, 2023	Jefferson/PBSIS – to raise funds for PBSIS
		rewards
BSN Sports Apparel	February 1-March 1,	UHS/Baseball – to raise funds for winter
	2023	Zoned workouts, team food and Union
		Middle School night game event
BSN Sports Apparel	February 1-April 1,	UHS/Baseball Diamond Club – to raise funds
	2023	for winter Zoned workouts, team food and
		Union Middle School night game event
Snack Sales	February 23-April	UHS/Boys Volleyball – to raise funds for
	24, 2023	boys' volleyball team
Wall of Paws Fundraiser	March 2023	Battle Hill – to raise funds to help animals;
		moneys to be donated to 2 rescues
Oreo Cookie Sale	February 13-March	UHS/JROTC – to raise funds for
	31, 2023	participation in the US Army National Drill
		Competition in Daytona Beach
Battle of the Classes	February 21-June	UHS/Senior Class – to raise funds for the
Senior Day	20, 2023	senior class and graduation
• Penny Wars		
• Dine to Donate (Applebees, TGI		
Fridays, etc.)		
Cookie Dough Sale		
	1	

Volleyball Tournament-Students v		
Faculty		
Bake Sales	February 22-June	UHS/Play Unified and Club TESSLO – to
	16, 2023	raise funds for SONJ/Play Unified/TESSLO
		program and Unified Sports
Spirit Wear Sale	February 22-June 5,	UHS/Play Unified and Club TESSLO – to
	2023	raise funds for SONJ/Play Unified/TESSLO
		program and Unified Sports
Districtwide Dress Down Days	February 28-May	UHS/Play Unified and Club TESSLO – to
	18, 2023	raise funds for SONJ/Play Unified/TESSLO
		program and Unified Sports
Raffle	March 1-June 2023	UHS/Boys Soccer – to raise funds for team
		meals and additional equipment
Bake Sale and Dress Down Day	March 15-17, 2023	UHS/Empowerment Group – to raise funds
		for Ms. UHS Showcase Event
UHS Staff Dress Down Day	February 22, 2023	UHS/Hackers – to raise funds for UHS
		Hackers
UHS Hackathon	April 22-23, 2023	UHS/Hackers – to raise funds for UHS
		Hackathon
Dress Down Day	February 21-June	UHS/Softball – to raise funds for end of year
	20, 2023	events
Sale of Donated Items	February 21-June	Burnet/GIT Program – to raise funds for out
(Candy-grams, Bake Sales, etc.)	23, 2023	of state trip
Student Council	March 1-31, 2023	Connecticut Farms – collect trial size items
		for donation to the homeless
Bake Sale	March 30-31, 2023	UHS/National Honor Society – raise funds
		for scholarships, cords, pins, senior breakfast
Dress Down Day	February 21-June	UHS/Senior Class – raise funds for senior
	30, 2023	class events

# F-12. ACCEPT DONATIONS

Accept the following donations, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes:

From	For Use By	\$/Item
Shutterfly, LLC	Connecticut Farms Elementary	\$1,701.67
	School	
Pepsico Beverage Sales	Union High School	\$225.04
Mariana Pena	Kawameeh Middle School	Two copies of "Matt Sprouts
		and the Curse of the Ten Broken
		Toes" signed by author Matt
		Eicheldinger
Union Police Department	Pre-K Students	Doll Houses
Insta Yard Grams	Little Free Library Ribbon	Yard Sign - \$200.00 (approx.)
	Cutting Ceremony on February	
	21, 2023	

# F-13. APPROVE CONTRACT – COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

Approve School Contract with the State of New Jersey, Department of Human Services, Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired, for education services for student in the district

for the 2022-2023 school year, in accordance with the <u>non</u>-public information appended to the minutes.

#### F-14. APPROVE PARENT/PUPIL TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT – 2022-2023

Approve parent/pupil transportation contract for special education student attending DLC-Warren at the rate of \$56.60 per day (not to exceed \$7,358.00) for the 2022-2023 school year, in accordance with the <u>non</u>-public information appended to the minutes.

F-15. Approved at February 16, 2023 worksession (Inspired Instruction-professional development).

# F-16. APPROVE SUBMISSION FOR NJSDA REGULAR OPERATING DISTRICT GRANT AWARD

Approve the district's submission to apply for the New Jersey Schools Development Authority (NJSDA) Regular Operating District Grant Award under the ROD Grant Program.

# F-17. APPROVE PRISMATIC MAGIC EDUCATIONAL LASER ASSEMBLY – BULLYING PREVENTION ASSEMBLIES

Approve Prismatic Magic Educational Laser Assembly to coordinate two (2) student bullying prevention assemblies at Jefferson Elementary School on March 24, 2023 (at a cost of \$1,335.50 to be paid using Title IV funds, account extension 8500), in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

# F-18. APPROVE PARTICIPATION IN COORDINATED TRANSPORTATION – WARREN COUNTY SPECIAL SERVICES SCHOOL DISTRICT

Approve Resolution for Participation in Coordinated Transportation, for the 2023-2024 school year, with Warren County Special Services School District, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

# F-19. APPROVE PARTICIPATION IN COORDINATED TRANSPORTATION – MONMOUTH-OCEAN EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMMISSION

Approve resolution for participation in coordinated Transportation with Monmouth-Ocean Educational Services Commission for the five (5) year period from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2028, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

# F-20. APPROVE AGREEMENT FOR NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL AID IN LIEU ELIGIBLE STUDENT AGREEMENT – MONMOUTH-OCEAN EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION

Approve Non-Public School Aid in Lieu Eligible Students Agreement with Monmouth-Ocean Educational Services Commission for one (1) year from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

# F-21. APPROVE RUTGERS CENTER FOR LITERACY DEVELOPMENT – PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Approve Rutgers Center for Literacy Development to coordinate professional development trainings on March 6, 2023 for all K-4 teachers focusing on science of reading

topics (at a cost of \$550 to be paid using Title II funds, account extension 8434), in accordance with the information appended to the minutess.

# F-22. APPROVE FOR THE LOVE OF LITERACY – PARENT ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

Approve For the Love of Literacy LLC to coordinate a Family Literacy Night Parenting Engagement Program at Franklin Elementary School on March 21, 2023, Jefferson Elementary School on March 15, 2023 and Burnet Middle School on March 29, 2023 (at a cost of \$1,278 per school to be paid using Title I parent reserve funds, account extensions 16867 (Franklin), 17476 (Jefferson) and 17050 (Burnet).

#### F-23. APPROVE RECEIPT OF GRANT AWARD – HVAC

Approve receipt of School and Small Business Ventilation and Energy Efficiency Verification and Repair Program HVAC Replacement/New System Program Grant Award for the 2023-2024 school year in the amount of \$822,675, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

#### F-24. APPROVEMENT AMENDMENT TO TRINITAS CHILDREN THERAPY

Approve amendment to Trinitas Children Therapy (originally approved October 18, 2022-F-29) to provide (a) physical therapy, (b) occupational therapy and (c) speech therapy, each at the rate of \$75.00 per 30 minutes and \$90.00 for 45 minutes for the 2022-2023 school year, not to exceed \$10,500.00 [Account No. 11-000-219-320-01-19], in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

F-25. Approved at February 16, 2023 worksession (Dennis Morolda-professional development).

# F-26. APPROVE RUTGERS UNIVERSITY – SEL LAB TRAINING

Approve Rutgers University to coordinate SEL Lab training for the staff at Washington Elementary School for the 2022-2023 school year (at a cost of \$3,000.00 to be paid through ARP ESSER Mental Health Grant; account extension 19953).

F-27. Agenda item pulled at February 16, 2023 worksession (Center for Responsive Schools-Professional Development).

#### F-28. APPROVE WINSOR LEARNING – PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Approve Winsor Learning to coordinate two professional development sessions at Franklin Elementary School for all staff members which include Sonday System: Let's Play Learn Pre-Reading and Early Reading Schools and Sonday System 1 Reading Intervention for the 2022-2023 school year (at a cost of \$7,000 to be paid using ARP ESSER funds; account extension 19948).

#### F-29. APPROVE KIND KIDS SEL EDUCATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Approve Kind Kids SEL Educational Assembly to be held at Connecticut Farms Elementary School on March 27, 2023, Battle Hill Elementary School and Livingston Elementary School on March 28, 2023 (at a cost of \$3,675.00 to be paid using Title IV funds; account extension 8500).

# F-30. APPROVE PRISMATIC MAGIC EDUCATIONAL LASER ASSEMBLY – BULLYING PREVENTION ASSEMBLIES

Approve Prismatic Magic Educational Laser Assembly to coordinate two student bullying prevention assemblies at Franklin Elementary School; focused on Black History Month Tribute on March 21, 2023 and Kindness Quest on April 28, 2023 (at a cost of \$2,621.00 to be paid using Title IV funds; account extension 8500).

#### F-31. APPROVE YOUNG AUDIENCES – STUDENT PERFORMANCES

Approve Young Audiences to coordinate two student performances at Connecticut Farms Elementary School on May 25, 2023 called "Willow Girl" (at a cost of \$1,900.00 to be paid using Title IV funds; account extension 8500).

#### F-32. APPROVE WINCEYCO LLC – STUDENT PERFORMANCES

Approve Winceyco LLC to coordinate two student performances at Connecticut Farms Elementary School on March 6, 2023 called "Celebration of Powerful Women in History" (at a cost of \$2,375.00 to be paid using Title IV funds; account extension 8500).

#### F-33. APPROVE BROOKFIELD SCHOOLS – BEDSIDE INSTRUCTION

Approve teachers employed through Brookfield Schools to provide bedside instruction for district students on an "as needed" basis for the 2022-2023 school year, in an amount not to exceed \$6,000.00 [Account No. 7693-11-150-100-320-01-19], in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

# F-34. APPROVE TECHNOLOGY FOR EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION CONSULTING – ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

Approve Technology for Education and Communication Consulting Incorporated to provide the assistive technology/augmentative communication consult at \$125.00/hr. and assistive technology/AAC general training at the rate of \$150.00/hr. (not to exceed \$750.00) for the 2022-2023 school year [Account No. 11-000-219-320-01-19], in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

F-35. Vote failed at February 16, 2023 worksession (Edmentum-French Classes).

# F-36. APPROVE REQUEST FROM FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – STEP SHOW ASSEMBLY

Approve Step Show Assembly at Franklin Elementary School which will include members from Meet the Greeks Divine 9 Expo, who will be donating their time, for Black History month, on February 24, 2023 during the school day, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

# F-37. APPROVE THE BRAIN SHOW EDUCATIONAL ASSEMBLY PROGRAM – HANNAH CALDWELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Approve The Brain Show Educational Assembly Program at Hannah Caldwell Elementary School on February 10, 2023, during the school day, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

#### F-38. APPROVE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

Approve Settlement Agreement with Employee #10483, in accordance with the non-public information appended to the minutes.

F-39. For informational purposes only – vote not required. List of legal services for the 2022-2023 fiscal year, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

#### F-40. APPROVE IXL – PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Approve IXL to facilitate professional development on March 6, 2023 for all instructional staff members at Kawameeh Middle School based on the data learning software (at a cost of \$1,250 to be paid using Title II funds; account extension 84340.

# F-41. APPROVE DASH CONSULTING AND TLB COLLECTIVE – PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Approve DASH Consulting LLC and TLB Collective LLC to facilitate professional development on March 18, 2023 or central administration and stakeholders (at a cost of \$4,000.00 to be paid using Title II fuds; account extension 8434).

#### F-42. APPROVE ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT

Approve acceptance of the new Jersey Department of Education and New Jersey Schools Development Authority Emergent and Capital Maintenance Needs application for the New Jersey State FY2023 in the amount of \$181,495. The grant application will request the project be related to initiatives geared towards school security specifically the purchase of electrical door alarm notifications in all elementary and secondary school buildings.

#### DISCUSSION:

None

AYE: Mrs. Brens-Watson, Ms. Carbonell, Mrs. Minneci, Mr. O'Shea,

Mrs. Regis-Darby, Ms. Santana, Mrs. Scott-Hayden, Mrs. Williams, Ms. McKenzie

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Mrs. Regis-Darby (F-21 and F-41)

MOTION CARRIED

#### **Operations Committee Resolutions:**

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following resolutions were moved by Ms. Santana, seconded by Mrs. Scott-Hayden, for adoption:

#### O-1. APPROVE SECURITY DRILL/BUS EVACUATION REPORTS

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:41-1 and P.L. 2009, Chapter 178, approve the following security drill and, if applicable, bus evacuation reports for the 2022-2023 school year, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

#### O-2. APPROVE SUBMISSION OF ALTERNATE METHOD OF COMPLIANCE

Approve submission of the alternate method of compliance in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:26-6.3 and/or 6.4 for toilet room facilities for early intervention, pre-kindergarten and

kindergarten classrooms (2022-2023 school year), in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

# O-3. APPROVE SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION FOR CHANGE OF USE OF EDUCATIONAL SPACE

Approve submission of Application for Change of Use of Educational Space for the 2022-2023 school year to the New Jersey Department of Education (Union County office), in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

# O-4. APPROVE REQUEST FROM TOWNSHIP OF UNION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Approve request from Township of Union Chamber of Commerce for the use of the Union High School facility site for the Chamber's 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Mayor's day 5K Run on Sunday, September 24, 2023, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

#### O-5. APPROVE REQUEST FROM ROTARY CLUB

Approve request from Rotary Club of Union for the use of Union High School classrooms and athletic fields on May 13, 2023 (9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.) for Family Fitness Festival, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

# O-6. APPROVE REQUEST FROM TOWNSHIP OF UNION POLICE DEPARTMENT

Approve request from the Township of Union Police Department to use the main gymnasium at Union High School for a fundraising basketball game on March 31, 2023 from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

None

AYE: Mrs. Brens-Watson, Ms. Carbonell, Mrs. Minneci, Mr. O'Shea,

Mrs. Regis-Darby, Ms. Santana, Mrs. Scott-Hayden, Mrs. Williams, Ms. McKenzie

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None MOTION CARRIED

#### Personnel Committee Resolutions:

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following resolutions were moved by Mrs. Scott-Hayden, seconded by Mrs. Minneci, for adoption:

#### P-1A. PERSONNEL ACTIONS – NEW HIRES

Personnel Actions-New Hires be approved in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

#### P-1B PERSONNEL ACTIONS – EXTRA PAY

Personnel Actions-Extra Pay be approved in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

# P-1C PERSONNEL ACTIONS – TRANSFERS

Personnel Actions- Transfers be approved in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

# P-2. APPROVE SUBSTITUTE LISTS

Approve Substitute Lists for the 2022-2023 school year.

Name	Position	Rate
David A. Bridges	Sub-custodian	\$16.00/hr.
Jennifer Motta	Sub-security	\$15.00/hr.
Ginnalisana Vargas	Sub-custodian	\$16.00/hr.
Derly A. Oliveros-Zamo	Sub-custodian	\$16.00/hr.

# P-3. ACCEPT LETTERS OF RESIGNATION/RETIREMENT

Accept letters of resignation/retirement from the following staff:

Name	Position	Location	Eff. Date	Reason	Notes
Paul Schwab	Electrician, Plumber, HVAC	Maintenance Dept	09/1/2023	retirement	
Maria Brites	Cafeteria, playground aide	Washington	01/4/2023	Resignation	
Ermalinda Bryans	Paraprofessional	Battle Hill	07/01/2023	Retirement	
Luis Caro	Part-time bus driver	Transportation Dept	12/28/2022	Resignation	
Jolie Doyle	Kindergarten teacher	Livingston	07/01/2023	Retirement	
Mark Filan	General and vocal music teacher	Connecticut Farms	Updated 04/01/2023	Retirement	
Maria Korba	Special education teacher	Connecticut Farms	07/01/2023	Retirement	
Jenny Lau	Vocal music teacher	Livingston	02/01/2023	Retirement	
Matt Puorro	Health and physical education teacher	Hannah Caldwell	03/06/2023	Resignation	
Kelly Robinson	1 <sup>st</sup> grade teacher	Battle Hill	01/04/2023	Resignation	

# P-4. APPROVE LEAVES

Approve leaves for the following staff:

Name	Position	Location	Leave Dates	Leave Type	Notes
Karen Wojcik	Secretary	Battle Hill	1/30/2023-	Extension paid	
			2/28/2023	medical leave	
Jao Bernardes	English	BMS	1/17/2023-	Paid medical leave	
	teacher		2/15/2023		
Daiana	Spanish	UHS	5/5/2023-	Paid child rearing	
Permison	teacher		10/31/2023	leave followed by	
				unpaid	
				FMLA/NJFLA	
				(concurrently)	
Antonella	Part-time	Business	1/16/2023-	Extension paid	
Melchionna	account	Office	2/20/2023	medical leave	
Kathleen	Preschool	Livingston	2/15/2023-	Intermittent	
Bruns Meyers	teacher	Livingston	5/15/2023	FMLA/NJFLA	
Bruits Weyers	teacher		3/13/2023	(concurrently) leave	
Diana Burd	Special	Jefferson	4/24/2023-	Paid child rearing	
Diana Dala	education	3011013011	10/30/23	leave followed by	
	teacher		10/30/23	unpaid	
	teacher			FMLA/NJFLA	
				(concurrently)	
Cesar Bartolo	Maintenance-	Administration	2/15/2023-	Paternity leave	
Cesai Dartolo	grounds man	Bldg	5/10/2023	1 aterinty leave	
Jennifer	1 <sup>st</sup> grade	Livingston	4/17/2023-	Paid child rearing	
Markel	teacher	Livingston	11/3/2023	leave followed by	
Marker	teacher		11/3/2023	unpaid FMLA/	
				NJFLA	
				(concurrently)	
Tereza Sousa	1 <sup>st</sup> grade	Franklin	2/1/2023-	Paid medical leave	
Tereza Bousa	teacher	Tankini	2/1/2023	1 and medical leave	
Jessica Fiorito	Social Studies	UHS	1/26/2023-	Intermittent	
Jessica i ionito	teacher	CHS	6/20/2023	FMLA/NJFLA	
	teacher		0/20/2023	(concurrently) leave	
Jamie Johnson	2 <sup>nd</sup> grade	Washington	5/4/2023-	Paid child rearing	
Janne Johnson	teacher	w asimigton	11/24/2023	leave followed by	
	teacher		11/24/2023	unpaid FMLA/	
				NJFLA	
Lauren Coco	1 <sup>st</sup> grade	Hannah	1/20/2023-	(concurrently) Paid medical leave	
Lauren Coco	teacher	Caldwell	2/9/2023	r aiu illeulcal leave	
David Ciganta	Special	UHS	1/30/2023-	Paid medical leave	
David Gigante	Education	Uns	2/16/2023	r aid illedical leave	
	teacher		2/10/2023		
	teacher				
Sabine Ghazali	Math teacher	UHS	6/1/2023-	Paid child rearing	
Saume Ghazall	ivialii teacher	UIIS	6/30/2024	leave followed by	
			0/30/2024	unpaid FMLA/	
				NJFLA	
	Ì			(concurrently)	l

Steven Dering	PE teacher	BMS	3/3/2023-	Intermittent
			5/19/2023	paternity leave
Courtney	Kindergarten	Battle Hill	2/23/2023-	Paid medical leave
Sharpe	teacher		4/24/2023	followed by unpaid
				FMLA
Marvin Navata	PE teacher	BMS	3/6/2023-	Paternity leave
			6/6/2023	
Victoria Krupa	5 <sup>th</sup> grade	Jefferson	2/17/2023-	Paid medical leave
	teacher		4/17/2023	followed by unpaid
				FMLA
Britt	Pre-k teacher	Connecticut	1/30/2023-	Paid medical leave
Boegershausen		Farms	3/06/2023	followed by unpaid
				FMLA

#### P-5. APPROVE UPDATED ATHLETIC EVENT STAFF ASSIGNMENTS

Approve updated Athletic Event Staff Assignments for the 2022-2023 school year, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

## P-6. APPROVE STUDENT TEACHERS AND INTERNSHIPS

Approve student teachers and internships for the 2022-2023 school year, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

#### P-7. APPROVE VOLUNTEER

Approve the following volunteer to perform services within the district: (a) Ernestine Sanchez – UHS.

#### DISCUSSION:

None

AYE: Mrs. Brens-Watson, Ms. Carbonell, Mrs. Minneci, Mr. O'Shea,

Mrs. Regis-Darby, Ms. Santana, Mrs. Scott-Hayden, Mrs. Williams, Ms. McKenzie

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Mrs. Regis-Darby (P-7) MOTION CARRIED

# Policy Committee:

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following policies were moved by Mrs. Williams, seconded by Mr. O'Shea, for *FINAL READING* and adoption:

#### POL-1 POLICY 0164 – CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Approve Policy 0164- Conduct of Business, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

#### POL-2 POLICY 5512 – HARRASSMENT INTIMIDATION AND BULLYING

Approve Policy 5512 – Harassment Intimidation and Bullying, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

POL-3 After Board voted, this agenda item was rescinded for additional review and future meeting (Policy 7510 – Use of School Facilities).

#### POL-4.POLICY 1648.11 – ABOLISHED

Abolish Policy 1648.11 – the Road Forward COVID-19 – Health and Safety (M).

#### POL-5.POLICY 1648.13 – ABOLISHED

Abolish Policy 1648.13 – School Employee Vaccination Requirements (M).

#### POL-6.POLICY 0152 – BOARD OFFICERS

Approve Policy 0152 – Board Officers, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

# POL-7.POLICY 0161 - CALL, ADJOURNMENT AND CANCELLATIONS

Approve Policy 0161 – Call, Adjournment and Cancellations, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

#### POL-8.POLICY 0162 - NOTICE OF BOARD MEETINGS

Approve Policy 0162 – Notice of Board Meetings, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

# POL-9.POLICY 2423 – BILINGUAL AND ESL EDUCATION (M)

Approve Policy 2423 – Bilingual and ESL Education, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

# POL-10. REGULATION 2423 – BILINGUAL AND ESL EDUCATION (M)

Approve Regulation 2423 – Bilingual and ESL Education, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

- POL-11. Agenda item tabled for future meeting Policy 5200 Attendance (M).
- POL-12. Agenda item tabled for future meeting Regulation 5200 Attendance (M).

# POL-13. POLICY 8140 – STUDENT ENROLLMENTS (M)

Approve Policy 8140 – Student Enrollments, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

# POL-14. REGULATION 8140 – ENROLLMENT ACCOUNTING (M)

Approve Regulation 8140 – Enrollment Accounting, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

# POL-15. POLICY 8330 - STUDENT RECORDS (M)

Approve Policy 8330 – Student Records, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

#### POL-16. REGULATION 8330 – STUDENT RECORDS (M)

Approve Regulation 8330 – Student Records, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

# POL-17. REGULATION 8420.2 – BOMB THREATS (M)

Approve Regulation 8420.2 – Bomb Threats, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

#### POL-18. REGULATION 8420.7 – LOCKDOWN PROCEDURES (M)

Approve Regulation 8420.7 – Lockdown Procedures, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

#### POL-19. REGULATION 8420.10 – ACTIVE SHOOTER (M)

Approve Regulation 8420.10 – Active Shooter, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

#### DISCUSSION:

Mrs. Minneci asked if Policy 7510 was for both indoor facilities and outdoor facilities. Mrs. Williams stated no.

AYE: Mrs. Brens-Watson, Ms. Carbonell, Mrs. Minneci, Mr. O'Shea,

Mrs. Regis-Darby, Ms. Santana, Mrs. Scott-Hayden, Mrs. Williams, Ms. McKenzie

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Mrs. Regis-Darby (Pol-3)

MOTION CARRIED

#### Residency Committee Resolutions:

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following resolutions were moved by Mrs. Minneci, seconded by Mrs. Scott-Hayden, for adoption:

#### R-1. APPROVE LIST OF STUDENTS REMOVED FROM ROLLS

Approval be given to amend the list of students removed from the rolls [four (4) students exited the month of January-February 2023 (2 from elementary, 1 from secondary and 1 from high school) or a total of twenty-one (21) students for the 2022-2023 school year] who are not domiciled in this school district, in accordance with the non-public information appended to the minutes.

#### R-2. APPROVE TO REMOVE STUDENT

Approval to remove student #256613 from the attendance rolls as the student has been determined to be ineligible to attend the Township of Union Public Schools as a resident student.

#### R-3. APPROVE TO REMOVE STUDENT

Approval to remove student #296003 from the attendance rolls as the student has been determined to be ineligible to attend the Township of Union Public Schools as a resident student.

#### R-4. APPROVE TO REMOVE STUDENT

Approval to remove student #341350 from the attendance rolls as the student has been determined to be ineligible to attend the Township of Union Public Schools as a resident student.

#### R-5. APPROVE TO REMOVE STUDENT

Approval to remove student #330293 from the attendance rolls as the student has been determined to be ineligible to attend the Township of Union Public Schools as a resident student.

#### DISCUSSION:

None

AYE: Mrs. Brens-Watson, Ms. Carbonell, Mrs. Minneci, Mr. O'Shea,

Mrs. Regis-Darby, Ms. Santana, Mrs. Scott-Hayden, Mrs. Williams, Ms. McKenzie

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None MOTION CARRIED

# Approval of Bills:

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, and moved by Mrs. Brens-Watson, seconded by Ms. Santana, that the Board concur with the bills listed in the permanent bound register appended to these minutes and be ordered for payment.

#### DISCUSSION:

None

AYE: Mrs. Brens-Watson, Ms. Carbonell, Mrs. Minneci, Mr. O'Shea,

Mrs. Regis-Darby, Ms. Santana, Mrs. Scott-Hayden, Mrs. Williams, Ms. McKenzie

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None MOTION CARRIED

#### Unfinished Business:

The Board agreed to rescind the vote on POL-3 – Policy 7510-Use of School Facilities for further review.

Moved by Ms. Santana, seconded by Mrs. Minneci, to rescind the vote on POL-3 – Policy 7510-Use of School Facilities.

AYE: Mrs. Brens-Watson, Ms. Carbonell, Mrs. Minneci, Mr. O'Shea,

Mrs. Regis-Darby, Ms. Santana, Mrs. Scott-Hayden, Mrs. Williams, Ms. McKenzie

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None MOTION CARRIED

Ms. Santana thanked the presenters and students for all their work and thanked the SEPAG for their presentation.

Ms. Carbonell stated at Jefferson they had a volleyball game and she wanted to thank Ms. Piano – it was a community builder.

Mrs. Regis-Darby stated that graduation should be moved to either earlier, later or indoors. Dr. Taylor stated that this is under discussion - it may be later in the day because Kean cannot accommodate graduation.

Mrs. Williams stated she attended the PTA Science Fair. The second graders learned about cats and the germ world, and fourth graders learned about fossils and aqueducts. The kids were awesome.

Mr. O'Shea stated he was at Connecticut Farms Elementary School and met with the PTA, staff and parents and all the things they want to do for their students. They asked for us to participate in their fundraisers.

#### **New Business:**

Ms. McKenzie stated she attended the ribbon cutting at the Board office for the Little Free Library Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. There is one at each school and there is an app so you can see where each library is located.

Mrs. Regis-Darby wanted to recognize the retirements of Jolie Doyle and Jenny Lau from Livingston Elementary School. Both were wonderful teachers.

Mrs. Brens-Watson stated she enjoyed the ribbon cutting ceremony. She stated that Isabella Scocozza mentioned how important it is to read and these libraries are for everyone in the community. She also stated that she wanted to thank Mr. Petras from the G&T program. The work he is doing is amazing. Every student should have the opportunity to participate in the G&T program; he pushes and challenges the students

#### Comments from the Public:

Mr. Arminio stated that the UTEA has collaborated with the Historical Society and this Sunday at the Caldwell Parsonage is for Hannah Caldwell and Livingston Schools, but all are invited. There will be special exhibits from the Vauxhall Historical Society for Black History month.

2026 celebration  $-250^{th}$  birthday of America is just around the corner and we need to collaborate to develop a project.

Ann Margaret Shannon stated I hope everyone can make it for Sunday and the Young Men of Distinction Conference on February 11<sup>th</sup> was very successful.

Luisa Biese stated that we need an action plan for student regarding the vaping situation in the high school. The district should hold the parents accountable and have them pay for these tests instead of the district paying them. What are we doing to the repeat offenders? She agrees with locking bathroom doors. How about scan cards to go into the bathrooms?

Carla Vicari stated thank you to Jill Hall for counseling services. She asked questions to Jill Hall and Dr. Taylor stated Jill Hall will respond to her via email.

Jill Hall stated vaping is such a challenge and we have an uptick of nicotine. She is on the New Jersey Prevention Network which is creating a marijuana tool kit and it should be ready by March/April and it will be helpful to us. The biggest challenge is the risk prevention because it is low. We are looking at smart pass – it is done on a cell phone. Speak Sobriety was an amazing PD.

Melissa Diaz stated thank you to Mrs. Scott-Hayden for supporting Battle Hill. She also stated that it would be great if Battle Hill had security. We have a lot of runners and a lot of special needs kids. We need help; it is not fair to teachers and other students. Dr. Taylor stated he would reach out to speak with her.

#### MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Moved by Mrs. Minneci, seconded by Mrs. Brens-Watson, that the Board go into Executive Session at 8:44 p.m. to discuss the following subject matters without the presence of the public in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b: personnel; legal update.

Please take notice that minutes will be taken of the discussion conducted during the executive session and the Board will disclose the minutes of the executive session when the disclosure will not result in unwarranted invasion of individual privacy or prejudice to the best interests of the Board of Education and provided that such disclosure does not violate federal, state or local statutes and does not fall within the attorney/client privilege.

Action may be taken when the Board reconvenes in public session.

AYE: Mrs. Brens-Watson, Ms. Carbonell, Mrs. Minneci, Mr. O'Shea,

Mrs. Regis-Darby, Ms. Santana, Mrs. Scott-Hayden, Mrs. Williams, Ms. McKenzie

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None MOTION CARRIED

#### MOTION TO ADJOURN:

There being no further business before the Board in public session it was moved by Mrs. Brens-Watson, seconded by Ms. Santana, that the meeting be adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

AYE: Mrs. Brens-Watson, Ms. Carbonell, Mrs. Minneci, Mr. O'Shea,

Mrs. Regis-Darby, Ms. Santana, Mrs. Scott-Hayden, Mrs. Williams, Ms. McKenzie

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None MOTION CARRIED

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

**Yolanda Koon** YOLANDA KOON

BOARD SECRETARY