

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
of the
MERCER COUNTY SPECIAL SERVICES SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES

BUSINESS MEETING

Tuesday May 7, 2019
4:30 pm

The monthly business meeting for the month of May 7, 2019 was held this day in the Mercer Elementary School Superintendent's Conference Room, 2nd Floor, 1020 Old Trenton Road, Hamilton, NJ.

The Board of Education took the following actions:

1. CALL TO ORDER: Board of Education President Camille Rainiero called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT: Ms. Rainiero read the following statement:

In accordance with the provisions New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law, the Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be posted in the Board Office and in the Mercer County Clerk's Office and mailed to the *Trenton Times*.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Camille Rainiero, Yasmin Hernandez-Manno, Lisa Vena, Samuel Floyd, & Jan Lewis

Also Present: Dr. Kimberly Schneider, Superintendent, Deborah Donnelly, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Dana Hice-DePugh, Assistant Superintendent, and Walter Bliss, Board Attorney.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Ms. Rainiero led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. PUBLIC SESSION: None
4. Approval of the May 7, 2019 Board Meeting Regular Minutes:

A Motion by Lisa Vena and seconded by Samuel Floyd to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call:	Mr. Floyd -	Yes	
	Ms. Vena -	Yes	Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
	Ms. Lewis -	Abstain	Ms. Rainiero - Yes

5. Bills To Be Approved totaling \$3,529,199.39 and authorization of transfers within program areas as approved by the Superintendent

A Motion by Lisa Vena and seconded by Jan Lewis to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call: Mr. Floyd - Yes
 Ms. Vena - Yes Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
 Ms. Lewis - Yes Ms. Rainiero - Yes

6. Board Secretary/Treasurer’s Report for March 2019

A Motion by Lisa Vena and seconded by Jan Lewis to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call: Mr. Floyd - Yes
 Ms. Vena - Yes Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
 Ms. Lewis - Yes Ms. Rainiero - Yes

7. Correspondence & Communications

Code of Ethics Presentation to the Board Members by Walter Bliss, Esquire

8. Committee Reports – None

9. Superintendent’s Report - None

New/Special Projects: None

PERSONNEL & ADDENDUM

BE IT RESOLVED That the Board of Education does hereby approve the following appointments, reappointments, adjustments, resignations, terminations, retirements, leaves, transfers, suspensions, and requests for expedites, emergency certification for the School Year 2019 – 2020 as recommended by the Superintendent.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That the Board of Education submit to the County Superintendent, as required, applications for emergency hiring and the applicants’ attestations that they have 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.

Appointments, Re-Appointments, Resignations, Leaves, Retirements, etc., (Attachment 9-A) and addendum.

A Motion by Jan Lewis and Seconded by Lisa Vena was made to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call: Mr. Floyd - Yes
 Ms. Vena - Yes Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Abstain*
 Ms. Lewis - Yes Ms. Rainiero - Yes

*Note: Ms. Hernandez-Manno abstains from Emergent hire.

PERSONNEL:

Recommend Board approve the following:

Appointments, Resignations, Leaves, Retirements, and addendum etc. (*Attachment 9-A*)

2019-2020 Reappointment of Principals/Supervisors Staff (*Attachment 9A-1*)

2019-2020 Reappointment of Certified Staff (*Attachment 9A-2*)

2019-2020 Reappointment of Assistants (*Attachment 9A-3*)

2019-2020 Reappointment of Crisis Interventionists (*Attachment 9A-4*)

2019-2020 Reappointment of Support Staff (*Attachment 9A-5*)

2019-2020 Reappointment of Unaffiliated Staff (*Attachment 9A-6*)

2019 Extended School Year, Contracted Staff (*Attachment 9A-7*)

2019 Extended School Year, Hourly Staff (*Attachment 9A-8*).

A Motion by Jan Lewis and seconded by Lisa Vena to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call:	Mr. Floyd -	Yes	
	Ms. Vena -	Yes	Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
	Ms. Lewis -	Yes	Ms. Rainiero – Yes

Revised: Agreement between the Board of Education and Udaya Batchu, Assistant School Business Administrator, for the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 (*Attachment 9A-9*)

A Motion by Jan Lewis and seconded by Lisa Vena to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call:	Mr. Floyd -	Yes	
	Ms. Vena -	Yes	Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
	Ms. Lewis -	Yes	Ms. Rainiero – Yes

Revised Job Description(s) –

Case Manager, Special Child Health Services (*Attachment 9A-10*)

Project Adults Program Coordinator (*Attachment 9A-11*)

MISCELLANEOUS:

Approval to submit SFY 2020 Special Child Health Services, Case Management, Grant Application, in the amount of \$208,000, for the period 07/01/2019-06/30/2020.

A Motion by Lisa Vena and seconded by Samuel Floyd to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call:	Mr. Floyd -	Yes	
	Ms. Vena -	Yes	Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
	Ms. Lewis -	Yes	Ms. Rainiero – Yes

Approval to submit SFY 2020 Special Child Health Services, Early Hearing Detection and Intervention, Grant Application, in the amount of \$37,829.00, for the period 04/01/2019-03/31/2020.

A Motion by Lisa Vena and seconded by Samuel Floyd to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call:	Mr. Floyd -	Yes	
	Ms. Vena -	Yes	Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
	Ms. Lewis -	Yes	Ms. Rainiero – Yes

Approval to submit Mercer County Project SEARCH Start Up Grant. If awarded, grant will support MCSSSD by providing start-up funds to build and coordinate a Project SEARCH in Mercer County. Project SEARCH students would participate in employment related instruction and rotate through three internships. Application will be a two year proposal in the amount of \$112,306. This amount is based on recommendations from successful programs in the state and also includes the cost of the Project SEARCH license.

A Motion by Lisa Vena and seconded by Samuel Floyd to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call:	Mr. Floyd -	Yes	
	Ms. Vena -	Yes	Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
	Ms. Lewis -	Yes	Ms. Rainiero – Yes

Revised and/or New Policies, Regulations, or By-Laws - (*Attachment 9-B*)

First Reading -- Revised and/or New Policies, Regulations, or By-Laws

BYLAWS - None

POLICIES

P1642 Earned Sick Leave Law (M)

REGULATIONS

R1642 Earned Sick Leave Law (M)

A Motion by Lisa Vena and seconded by Samuel Floyd to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call: Mr. Floyd - Yes
 Ms. Vena - Yes Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
 Ms. Lewis - Yes Ms. Rainiero – Yes

Second Reading & Adoption -- Revised and/or New Policies, Regulations, or By-Laws
(no changes from First Reading)

BYLAWS - None**POLICIES**

P2422 Health and Physical Education (M)

REGULATIONS - None

A Motion by Lisa Vena and seconded by Samuel Floyd to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call: Mr. Floyd - Yes
 Ms. Vena - Yes Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
 Ms. Lewis - Yes Ms. Rainiero – Yes

REPORTS:

Fire and Security Drills for month of April, 2019 (*Attachment 9-C*)

A Motion by Lisa Vena and seconded by Samuel Floyd to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call: Mr. Floyd - Yes
 Ms. Vena - Yes Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
 Ms. Lewis - Yes Ms. Rainiero – Yes

Harassment, Intimidation & Bullying Report for April, 2019

Month	Investigations	HIB	Non-HIB	Pending
July	0	0	0	0
August	0	0	0	0
September	0	0	0	0
October	0	0	0	0
November	0	0	0	0
December	0	0	0	0
January	0	0	0	0
February	1	0	0	1
March	2	0	0	2
April	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	3	0	0	3

A Motion by Lisa Vena and seconded by Samuel Floyd to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call: Mr. Floyd - Yes
 Ms. Vena - Yes Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
 Ms. Lewis - Yes Ms. Rainiero – Yes

Enrollment Data as of April 2019:

YEAR	JULY	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
2017-2018	505	502	579	586	583	587	583	585	587	587	592	593
2018-2019	454	454	547	567	571	575	579	580	581	586		

	<u>03/29/19</u>	<u>04/30/19</u>
Mercer High School	247	248
Mercer Elementary School	223	223
Regional Day	10	9
J. F. Cappello School	<u>101</u>	<u>106</u>
<i>TOTAL:</i>	<i>581</i>	<i>586</i>

A Motion by Lisa Vena and seconded by Samuel Floyd to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call: Mr. Floyd - Yes
 Ms. Vena - Yes Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
 Ms. Lewis - Yes Ms. Rainiero – Yes

11. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Contract with Eastern Armored Services, Inc. to transport District deposits from Mercer High School to PNC Bank per scheduled dates for the period July 1, 2019 thru June 30, 2020 at \$31.19 per diem not to exceed \$2,800 (Attachment 11-a).

A Motion by Jan Lewis and seconded by Lisa Vena to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call: Mr. Floyd - Yes
 Ms. Vena - Yes Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
 Ms. Lewis - Yes Ms. Rainiero – Yes

- b. Approve the Affiliation Agreement between Mercer County Special Services School District Project Child Clinic Program and The Learning Center beginning July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 (Attachment 11-b).

A Motion by Jan Lewis and seconded by Lisa Vena to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call: Mr. Floyd - Yes
 Ms. Vena - Yes Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
 Ms. Lewis - Yes Ms. Rainiero – Yes

- c. Approve the Affiliation Agreement between Mercer County Special Services School District Project Child Clinic Program and The Goddard School beginning July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 (Attachment 11-c).

A Motion by Jan Lewis and seconded by Lisa Vena to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call: Mr. Floyd - Yes
 Ms. Vena - Yes Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
 Ms. Lewis - Yes Ms. Rainiero – Yes

- d. Approve to terminate the retirement plan administrative services of PenServ Plan Services, Incorporated, third party administrator for the District's 403(b) and 457(b) plan, effective August 15, 2019.

A Motion by Jan Lewis and seconded by Lisa Vena to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call: Mr. Floyd - Yes
 Ms. Vena - Yes Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
 Ms. Lewis - Yes Ms. Rainiero – Yes

- e. Approve Resolution and Agreement for Plan Connect to provide retirement plan administrative services, as a third party administrator for the District’s 403(b) and 457(b) plans as per service agreement effective August 16, 2019 (attachment 11-e).

A Motion by Jan Lewis and seconded by Lisa Vena to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call: Mr. Floyd - Yes
 Ms. Vena - Yes Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
 Ms. Lewis - Yes Ms. Rainiero – Yes

- f. Approve to accept the grant award in the amount of \$3,000 for the All in One Eye Gaze System to the Joseph F. Cappello School.

A Motion by Jan Lewis and seconded by Lisa Vena to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call: Mr. Floyd - Yes
 Ms. Vena - Yes Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
 Ms. Lewis - Yes Ms. Rainiero – Yes

- g. Approve to accept the Grant for Special Child Health Services Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EDHI) program [Early Identification and Monitoring] in the amount of \$37,829 to be used April 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020.

A Motion by Jan Lewis and seconded by Lisa Vena to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call: Mr. Floyd - Yes
 Ms. Vena - Yes Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
 Ms. Lewis - Yes Ms. Rainiero – Yes

- h. Approve The Center for Learning Garden State Discovery Museum Outreach Program to provide an assembly titled “Curly the Caterpillar” for the students of Mercer Elementary School at a cost of \$370 to be held on May 30, 2019.

A Motion by Jan Lewis and seconded by Lisa Vena to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call: Mr. Floyd - Yes
 Ms. Vena - Yes Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
 Ms. Lewis - Yes Ms. Rainiero – Yes

- i. Approve the Eyes of the Wild Zoo School Enrichment Program to provide an assembly to the students of Mercer Elementary School in the amount of \$320 to be held on June 6, 2019.

A Motion by Jan Lewis and seconded by Lisa Vena to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call: Mr. Floyd - Yes
 Ms. Vena - Yes Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
 Ms. Lewis - Yes Ms. Rainiero – Yes

- j. Approve the Mercer County Gardeners Club volunteers to work with the cognitive severe students of the Mercer Elementary School in a garden program on May 8, 15, 22 & 29, 2019.

A Motion by Jan Lewis and seconded by Lisa Vena to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call: Mr. Floyd - Yes
 Ms. Vena - Yes Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
 Ms. Lewis - Yes Ms. Rainiero – Yes

- k. Approval of Transportation Contract (s), Bids, Renewals & Addendum (Attachment 11-k).

A Motion by Jan Lewis and seconded by Lisa Vena to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call: Mr. Floyd - Yes
 Ms. Vena - Yes Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
 Ms. Lewis - Yes Ms. Rainiero – Yes

- l. Staff and Student Travel (Attachment 11-l).

A Motion by Jan Lewis and seconded by Lisa Vena to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call: Mr. Floyd - Yes
 Ms. Vena - Yes Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
 Ms. Lewis - Yes Ms. Rainiero – Yes

- m. Miscellaneous Equipment for Disposal (Attachment 11-m).

A Motion by Jan Lewis and seconded by Lisa Vena to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call: Mr. Floyd - Yes
 Ms. Vena - Yes Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
 Ms. Lewis - Yes Ms. Rainiero – Yes

- n. Approval to accept donation of various library books for Pre-Kindergarten to Teens from the Ewing Township Library.

A Motion by Jan Lewis and seconded by Lisa Vena to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call: Mr. Floyd - Yes
 Ms. Vena - Yes Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
 Ms. Lewis - Yes Ms. Rainiero – Yes

- o. Approve Lease Agreement between Mercer County Special Services School District and Camelot Educational Resources, LLC for the 2019/2020 school year (Attachment 11-o).

A Motion by Jan Lewis and seconded by Lisa Vena to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call: Mr. Floyd - Yes
 Ms. Vena - Yes Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
 Ms. Lewis - Yes Ms. Rainiero – Yes

- p. Approve Heather Pyle to provide professional services to MCSSSD to set up and implement Frontline Central at a rate of \$40.00 per hour increasing the not to exceed to \$5,500, effective dates 04/03/19 through 06/30/19.

A Motion by Jan Lewis and seconded by Lisa Vena to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call: Mr. Floyd - Yes
 Ms. Vena - Yes Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
 Ms. Lewis - Yes Ms. Rainiero – Yes

- q. Approve contract with Robert Wood Johnson Health Occupational & Corporate Health to provide pre-employment services to MCSSSD, effective May 2, 2019 through June 30, 2020. (Attachment 11-q)

A Motion by Jan Lewis and seconded by Lisa Vena to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call: Mr. Floyd - Yes
 Ms. Vena - Yes Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
 Ms. Lewis - Yes Ms. Rainiero – Yes

- r. Approve Lease Agreement between Mercer County Special Services School District and the ARC of Mercer County for the 2019-2020 school year. (Attachment 11-r)

A Motion by Jan Lewis and seconded by Lisa Vena to approve the aforementioned was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call:	Mr. Floyd -	Yes	
	Ms. Vena -	Yes	Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
	Ms. Lewis -	Yes	Ms. Rainiero – Yes

12. PUBLIC SESSION:

Tina Jablonski, Teacher at Joseph F. Cappello School said I understand parents and the Board's frustration with cancellations. This is where we are to just work to contract. We are not going to put in anything outside of school hours. This is not meant to be mean or punish anyone. Just where are we in negotiations.

The Memorial Day Parade is coming up. We would like to advertise and promote our school there.

Alison Mazukewicz, Speech Therapist, Theresa Elliott, Teacher and Joan Alito, Teachers at Mercer Elementary School said we will be at the POAC Walk on Saturday from 11am – 2pm at Fisher Middle School.

Barbara Brunelli, Teacher at the Joseph F. Cappello is the Pride Chairperson. Ms. Brunelli prepared a proposal to raise awareness of our schools. 115 food baskets were sent home to families at Christmas

and 105 for spring break. These baskets are funded by the union and community based programs and assembled by the students at Mercer High School and Mercer Elementary School.

Dr. Schneider thanked Yasmin Hernandez-Manno for leading the group in the County regarding vaping which is worse than smoking cigarettes. She is starting a work group to address vaping and is working in collaboration with the prosecutor's office.

Maureen Welsh, Teacher at the Mercer High School thanked Ms. Rainiero and Ms. Donnelly for meeting on April 17th to discuss unresolved issues. We are looking forward to settling.

Lisa Pusillo, Teacher at the Joseph F Cappello School, shared some research information from the Economic Policy Institute and New Jersey Teachers compensation; are NJ Public School Teachers over compensated (attached).

Ms. Vena asked if student events were cancelled, such as the Prom, Hamilton Police Baseball game.

Prom

Hamilton Police

Dr. Schneider said I will get the information.

Brian Kozakowski, said the fashion show was cancelled but the other events have been scaled back.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-11, permits the Board of Education to meet in closed session to discussion certain matters, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mercer County Special Services Board of Education shall recess to executive session for the purpose of discussing:

Personnel and Legal Update

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the discussion of such subject matter in closed session will be disclosed to the public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists, unless such is otherwise prohibited by law.

On a Motion by Samuel Floyd and Seconded by Jan Lewis the Board unanimously voted to go into Executive Session at 5:01 PM.

Roll Call: Mr. Floyd - Yes
 Ms. Vena - Yes Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
 Ms. Lewis - Yes Ms. Rainiero - Yes

On a Motion by Jan Lewis and Seconded by Lisa Vena the Board unanimously voted to return to the open meeting at 5:10 PM.

Roll Call: Mr. Floyd - Yes
 Ms. Vena - Yes Ms. Hernandez-Manno - Yes
 Ms. Lewis - Yes Ms. Rainiero - Yes

14. ADJOURNMENT

A Motion by Jan Lewis and Seconded by Lisa Vena to adjourn the meeting passed by unanimous voice vote, (5) aye’s (0) nay’s. Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Deborah Donnelly
Business Administrator/Board Secretary