

LINCOLN PARK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
LINCOLN PARK, NEW JERSEY
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
6:30 PM, VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM PLATFORM
April 7, 2020
District Mission Statement

The board meeting was held remotely via the Zoom Platform. The link to access the meeting was placed on the district's website with directions on how to attend and participate. The information was also provided via a letter emailed to all the parents/guardians in the district. The directions on how to participate in the public portion were reviewed before the actual start of the meeting.

The Lincoln Park School District will provide, through its schools, an educational setting that helps children to love and master learning, to work independently as well as collaboratively, and to develop the character and values that promote a healthy society. It is the school district's expectation that all students will achieve the New Jersey Student Learning Standards at all grade levels.

President Avena called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m., and he led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. He then read the following statement into the record:

In accordance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, I wish to announce that:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of the act, the Lincoln Park Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be mailed to the Daily Record and The Record and posted at the Board of Education Administrative Offices and filed with the Borough Clerk.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Antonetti, Mr. Avena, Mr. Henches, Mr. Kaufman, Mr. Raffa, Ms. Vucenovic

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ms. Nagle

ADMINISTRATION: Mr. James Grube, Superintendent, Mrs. Nicole Schoening, Business Administrator/ Board Secretary, and 3 members of administration

OTHERS PRESENT: Two members of the public

MINUTES

Trustee Kaufman, seconded by Trustee Henches, moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Education on March 17, 2020. The minutes were approved by a roll call vote: 6-0-0.

A roll call vote was taken for the Minutes.

YEA: Mr. Antonetti, Mr. Avena, Mr. Henches, Mr. Kaufman, Mr. Raffa, Ms. Vucenovic

NAY: None

ABSTAINED: None

The motion carried 6-0-0

PRESENTATIONS

- None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Changes to the Agenda
Additions/Revisions:
 - Administration- Addition of Resolution #5, Rescinding Home Instruction.
 - Personnel Resolution #1 change of date from March 13, 2020 to April 13, 2020.

- HIB Report- No report since last meeting.
- Suspension Report- No report since last meeting.
- Mr. Grube gave an update on the remote learning survey that went out to the parents. One third of the parents responded back and were complementary and positive. A few parents said that they felt it was too much work, while some parents indicated there could be more work given. The responses were very positive to the "Link Up Day", which was held on Friday. Also many responses indicated how difficult it is with multiple children home and parents trying to work from home as well. Mr. Grube stated he had no other information from the Governor at this time as to when schools will reopen. Until the Governor directs schools to open all NJ schools will continue with remote learning. Remote learning will continue after spring break. Mr. Grube reminded everyone that lunches will be served at the Middle School from 10:30 am until 12:00 pm for all students who are eligible for free and reduced lunch and also available to any student who would like to purchase lunch. If anyone is having a difficult time getting in touch with our schools please send an email.
- Mr. Grube thanked all students, parents and staff as this has not been an easy adjustment. All have stepped up to the plate and are doing a phenomenal job. #Lincoln Park Strong.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Elementary School:
Shelter Drill- 3/4/2020
Fire Drill- 3/11/2020

Middle School:
No Drills to Report

Mrs. Schoening reminded everyone that the public hearing on the 20-21 budget will be held at our May 5th meeting.

Mrs. Schoening discussed the bid opening on March 24th for the Middle School parking lot. The Board has 60 days to accept or reject the winning bid. At this time, the Board is considering all options including postponing the project until next year in light of the COVID pandemic.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Curriculum / Personnel, Todd Hennes

- No meeting, no report.

MCSBA, Patrick Antonetti

- No meeting, no report.

Finance Facilities, Frank Avena

- No meeting, no report.

Negotiations, Frank Avena

- No meeting. The originally scheduled meeting was canceled for safety reasons. Mr. Grube is working on a date for a remote meeting.

Lincoln Park/Pequannock/Montville Shared Services, Todd Hennes

- No meeting, no report.

Policy/Publication Relations, Joshua Kaufman

- No meeting, no report.

MCESC, Patrick Antonetti

- No meeting, no report

NJSBA, Frank Raffa

- No meeting, no report.

Boonton High School Representative / High School, Sandra Vucenovic

- Mrs. Vucenovic attended a virtual meeting on March 26th. They discussed the remote learning plan and they have had great success including 100 percent daily attendance. They received final applications for the academy programs and are still awaiting final numbers for acceptances. There was a dedication ceremony held on February 19th for the loss of two students, one being from Lincoln Park, student Luke Warbeck.

FIRST PUBLIC RECOGNITION REGARDING SCHOOL RELATED MATTERS

Trustee Kaufman, seconded by Trustee Henches, moved to open First Public Recognition at 6:45 p.m.

Mr. Grube provided direction on how any member of the public could comment during the public portion of the meeting.

Mr. Meyer, LPMS Principal, commented that everyone was doing a phenomenal job.

Trustee Henches, second by Trustee Kaufman, moved to close the First Public Recognition at 6:47 p.m.

RESOLUTIONS

ADMINISTRATION

Trustee Kaufman, seconded by Trustee Henches, moved to consider resolutions #1-4, as amended with addition of item #5.

CHANGE OF BOARD MEETING DATE

RESOLUTION 2521-2020 "RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Lincoln Park Board of Education approves the change of date of its regularly scheduled public board meeting scheduled for May 19, 2020 to be held on May 12, 2020. The board meeting will be held in the Lincoln Park Middle School Media Center beginning at 6:30 PM.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the aforesaid notice be mailed to the newspapers designated by this Board to receive the notice required by the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the aforesaid notice be filed with the Clerk of the Borough of Lincoln Park."

HIB REPORT, APRIL 2020

RESOLUTION 2522-2020 "RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Lincoln Park Board of Education recognizes and approves the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying report as of April 3, 2020, as summarized:

	<u>LPES</u>	<u>LPMS</u>
Incidents Reported	0	0
Confirmed HIB	0	0

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Lincoln Park Board of Education approves the remedial and disciplinary action taken by the building principals."

OPPOSING DELAY IN TRANSMISSION OF QUARTERLY PROPERTY TAX REVENUE TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS

RESOLUTION 2523-2020 "**WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 3902**, currently pending in the State Legislature, would authorize the Department of Community Affairs to permit municipalities to delay the quarterly transmission of property tax revenues to school districts during gubernatorial-declared emergencies; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's public schools are highly dependent on property tax revenue to support education programs; and

WHEREAS, on average, local property taxes constitute close to 60% of public school revenue, with the percentage even greater in a significant number of districts; and
WHEREAS, a delay in payments from municipalities would result in a financial crisis for school districts, seriously disrupting the educational process—and bringing it to a halt; and
WHEREAS, although public school buildings are closed during the current health emergency, the education of our students is taking place through remote learning and home instruction; and
WHEREAS, continued timely transmission of school property taxes is critical for the education process to continue without interruption; and
WHEREAS, even though municipalities are designated as the authorities to collect property taxes, these taxes are levied for specific purposes—e.g., municipal, school, county, fire district—and these obligations must continue to be met; and
WHEREAS, as currently written, A-3902, which is intended to ease a financial burden on municipalities, would place a severe strain on school districts and the students and families that they serve; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln Park Board of Education recognizes the impact of the current public health emergency on the state and local governments, as well as local school districts, but believes this legislation would worsen the situation for our communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lincoln Park Board of Education urges the State Senate and the Governor to oppose A-3902; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be delivered to Governor Phil Murphy, State Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney, Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin; and the 26th Legislative District's representatives in the state Senate and General Assembly; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to the New Jersey School Boards Association."

REMOVAL OF STUDENTS FROM 4-YEAR-OLD PRESCHOOL PROGRAM: 2019-2020

RESOLUTION 2524-2020 "RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Lincoln Park Board of Education post approves the removal of the following students from the 4-year-old Preschool Program in the Lincoln Park School District, per parental requests:

- A. S.C., as of March 24, 2020
- B. P.H., as of March 30, 2020
- C. J.S., as of March 31, 2020
- D. V.P., as of March 31, 2020
- E. F.J., as of March 31, 2020

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the tuition contracts for these students be cancelled."

RESCIND HOME INSTRUCTOR, ELLIOT

RESOLUTION 2525-2020 "RESOLVED, that the Lincoln Park Board of Education rescinds resolution 2454-2020 which was passed on February 4, 2020 in the following form:

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Lincoln Park Board of Education approves Taylor Elliot to be added to the district's list of Home Instructors, at the approved home instructor rate of pay, as called, for the 2019-2020 school year."

A roll call vote was taken for Administration, items #1-5:

YEA: Mr. Antonetti, Mr. Avena, Mr. Henches, Mr. Kaufman, Mr. Raffa, Ms. Vucenovic

NAY: None

ABSTAINED: None

The motion carried 6-0-0

PERSONNEL and FINANCE

Trustee Henches, seconded by Trustee Kaufman, moved to consider resolutions #1-2 on Personnel, as amended item #1, and Finance items #1-6.

RETURN FROM MATERNITY LEAVE, EMPLOYEE #1657

RESOLUTION 2526-2020 "RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Lincoln Park Board of Education post approves Employee, ID #1657, to return to work from maternity leave on April 13, 2020."

RESIGNATION, ALE-HAJTOVIK

RESOLUTION 2527-2020 "RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Lincoln Park Board of Education accepts the resignation of Elena Ale-Hajtovik, Grade 1 Teacher, Lincoln Park Elementary School, effective April 1, 2020."

FINANCE

PAYROLL AND GENERAL ACCOUNTS BILLS LIST

RESOLUTION 2528-2020 "RESOLVED, that the Lincoln Park Board of Education approves the payment of the following payroll related expenses and the following General Account bills list as approved by the Finance Committee:"

BILLS DESCRIPTION	DATED	AMOUNT
PAYROLL GENERAL	3/31/2020	\$ 257,597.26
STATE SHARE FICA	3/31/2020	\$ 24,921.85
BOARD SHARE FICA	3/31/2020	\$ 7,024.12
TOTAL		\$ 289,543.23

BILLS DESCRIPTION	DATED	AMOUNT
CHECK REGISTER FUND 10	4/01/2020	\$ 246,537.77
CHECK REGISTER FUND 40	4/01/2020	\$ 12,031.25
TOTAL		\$ 258,569.02

BILLS DESCRIPTION – FY20	DATED	AMOUNT
BILLS LIST FUND 10	4/7/2020	\$ 741,220.07
BILLS LIST FUND 20	4/7/2020	\$ 31,880.65
BILLS LIST FUND 60	4/7/2020	\$ 8,821.09
TOTAL		\$ 781,921.81

BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT, FEBRUARY, 2020

*RESOLUTION 2529-2020 "RESOLVED, that the Lincoln Park Board of Education accepts and affixes to the minutes of this meeting the February, 2020 Board Secretary's Report."

TREASURER'S REPORT, FEBRUARY, 2020

*RESOLUTION 2530-2020 "RESOLVED, that the Lincoln Park Board of Education accepts and affixes to the minutes of this meeting the Treasurer's Report for February, 2020."

MONTHLY TRANSFER REPORT, FEBRUARY, 2020

*RESOLUTION 2531-2020 "RESOLVED, that the Lincoln Park Board of Education approves and affixes to the minutes of this meeting the monthly transfer report for February, 2020 in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-13.3(e)."

CERTIFICATION, FEBRUARY, 2020

RESOLUTION 2532-2020 "Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2A 10(e), the Board Secretary does certify that the Board Secretary's Report for February, 2020 does not reflect over-expenditures in any account based on the appropriation balances reflected in the report and on the advice of district officials."

Board Secretary

APPROVAL OF SAGE THRIVE, INC AGREEMENT – 2019-2020

RESOLUTION 2533-2020 “RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, the Lincoln Park Board of Education approves an agreement with Sage Thrive, Inc. of Rochelle Park, NJ, to provide school based counseling and related counseling services at the rate of \$110.00 per hour, effective April 18, 2020 through June 30, 2020, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board President and the Business Administrator are authorized to execute the contract on behalf of the Board of Education”.

A roll call vote was taken for Personnel, items #1-2, Finance, items #1-6:

YEA: Mr. Antonetti, Mr. Avena, Mr. Henches, Mr. Kaufman, Mr. Raffa, Ms. Vucenovic

NAY: None

ABSTAINED: None

The motion carried 6-0-0

BOARD DISCUSSION

- Mr. Avena discussed the status of field trips and asked what we can see what we can do to give our graduates the opportunity to have a graduation, even if we need to wait until the end of summer. The Board agreed that they will have something for the graduates, but hopefully they will not have to reschedule. Mr. Grube said as soon as we get more information we will share.
- Mr. Kaufman commented on how smooth everything has been going and complimented the entire staff with much appreciation.
- Mr. Kaufman commented that he saw some people playing soccer on Lanes Field, he called the police due to the fact they were not practicing social distancing. As the owners of the field, if they can ask the Borough to close the field to the public. Mr. Grube responded that he will contact the Borough for assistance on this matter.
- Mr. Avena commented that he is thankful for the Lincoln Park staff and administration for making everything easier and appreciates all the hard work and dedication.

SECOND PUBLIC RECOGNITION REGARDING SCHOOL RELATED MATTERS

Trustee Kaufman, seconded by Trustee Antonetti, moved to open Second Public Recognition at 6:56 p.m.

Mr. Grube once again provided direction on how any member of the public could comment during the public portion of the meeting.

By a voice vote, the Board approved to close the second public recognition at 6:57 p.m., as there was no one from the public that wanted to address the Board.

Adjournment

Trustee Kaufman, seconded by Trustee Henches, moved for the Board:

To adjourn the meeting at 6:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Schoening, CPA, SFO
Business Administrator/Board Secretary