

**REGULAR SESSION
ALLENDALE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Wednesday, October 18, 2023**

The Regular Session of the Board of Education was held in the Brookside School Learning Commons on Wednesday, October 18, 2023. Mrs. Gundersen called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

The flag salute was led by Mrs. Gundersen.

Mrs. Fisher announced that, "The public has been duly informed of this meeting in accordance with Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975 by posting at least 48 hours' prior notice on the District website, bulletin boards in Brookside School and Hillside School and by like 48 hours' prior notice to the Borough Clerk, the designated newspapers, and interested parties requesting such notification."

ROLL CALL

Present: Mrs. Gundersen, President
Mrs. Capano
Mr. Verbel
Mr. Fliegel

Absent: Mrs. Rosner, Vice President
Mrs. Maria Engeleit, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Also Present: Dr. Michael Barcadepone, Superintendent
Mrs. Heather Fisher, Confidential Secretary to the Business Administrator

BOARD PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Mrs. Gundersen welcomed everyone to the meeting and expressed her excitement for the Book Fair. She thanked the volunteers and welcomed the student council, stating she was excited to hear their ideas.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr Barcadepone welcomed the Brookside student council to present their goals for the year. The Student Council introduced themselves and described their duties. The Principal Advisory council was presented by Ava Ritz and Ayanna McMaster. This council meets with Mr. Winkelstein to make recommendations and suggestions. They hope to provide input on the cafeteria project this year. The Hillside Playground Project was presented by Parker Fliegel, Michael Abbate and Jackson Sherry. The plan to collect student input on what the Hillside students want for their playground and make recommendations for the final design. The Cultural Arts committee was presented by Michael Abbate and Serena Wang. They plan on working with the PTO to make activities and assemblies that have educational meaning and the opportunity to learn more about cultures and go into depth about topics they have already learned. The Community Service Committee was presented by Ava Ritz and Ayanna McMaster. They look forward to offering food drives and encouraging volunteerism throughout Brookside. The School Spirit committee was presented by Serena Wang, Jackson Sherry, and Parker Fliegel. Their goal is to create fun school spirit days and

fundraisers. Dr. Barcadepone stated he would like the Student Council to attend the AFEE Auction to talk about the Hillside Playground project. He indicated that the students will be able to go to Hillside to visit the site.

Dr Barcadepone introduced Tanya Lopez-Gonzalez to present the DLM and NJSLA reports. Ms. Lopez-Gonzalez advised that the NJSLA assessment is done in grade 3-8 in the spring for math and grades 5-8 for science. The assessment is rated on a scale of not meeting, partially meeting, approaching, meeting, and exceeding. Participation rates are at or near 100%. There was no testing in 2020 – 2022 due to COVID. 80-90% of our results were meeting or exceeding expectations in Allendale. 7th grade test results were strong, and 8th grade was more than half advanced proficient. Mr. Fliegel asked if the results reflect the pre/post COVID fall off. Mrs. Lopez-Gonzalez indicated that there was less than a 5% deviation in Allendale but there was a 10% deviation statewide. Mr. Fliegel asked if the QUAD districts are all at or exceeding the scores. Dr. Barcadepone said that the test has not changed, but the cut scores could change. He stated that we out perform most other districts. Mr. Verbel stated he wanted to make sure we were comparing apples to apples. Mrs. Lopez-Gonzalez indicated it is a year to year comparison and that the content gets harder and the proficiency improves. Dr. Barcadepone state that the key is to look at the state. We are consistently about three time better and where we dip is where all the scores dip across the state. Mr. Verbel asked if the state created new cut lines that were lower after COVID and wondered if the new cut lines makes us look better post COVID. Dr Barcadepone stated that any statistician can manipulate data to make it look how they want. Mrs. Lopez-Gonzalez stated that by aggregating the group data, demographic data and the ACE data they can take the information into consideration for curriculum revision and standards. Mrs. Lopez-Gonzalez reported that the ELL population doubled and for the first time we have reportable data. The data indicated we have equity in the curriculum. Mr. Verbel asked if the cut line for reportable data changed and Dr. Barcadepone stated that the number of students to be “reportable” was 20 and now it is 10. Mr. Verbel clarified that it is not a percentage but a flat number. Mrs. Lopez-Gonzalez indicated our mathematics scores were amazing and show that wonderful things were happening in the classroom. The improvement in proficiencies of Math 8 is at 90% and that is amazing. Dr. Barcadepone stated that 68% of students are in Algebra at Brookside while 10-12% are in Algebra in other districts. Mrs. Lopez-Gonzalez stated we are four times more proficient compared to the rest of the state and gave kudos to the teachers; indicating that even the ELL and students with disabilities scores are extraordinary. The Science assessment was discussed. The highest score was Millburn with 61% the average score was 27 % and we are in the 50-percentile range. In grade 5 we are trending lower than grades 3 and 4 but in grade 6-8 we are double the state levels. She stated that the teachers are receiving a robust amount of professional development with goal setting and differential instruction in the classroom using this data. She stated it is not all about test score but also mental health and well being too. Dr. Barcadepone said he received a compliment from an attorney from another district who reached out to him to see how their district could improve.

Next, Mrs. Jennifer Goodell made a presentation on School Self-Assessment of Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act. Mrs. Goodell is the districts Anti-bullying coordinator. The Form 338 is on the district’s website for a HIB report. She indicated that the district is proficiently fixing anything going in the wrong direction. Principals can review the HIB and determine that it is not HIB, however if it is student conflict it still must be reported. Mrs. Goodell explained the process as

building-based school safety teams meet to evaluate the building's performance on the rubric supplied by the DOE then the principal and school safety team gathered evidence and determined a score. Mrs. Goodell then reviewed the scores. There are eight elements of the rubric and scoring is from 0- 3, 0 being does not meet the requirements and 3 being exceeding the requirements. Out of 78 points, Hillside and Brookside both scored 76. The total number of referrals went up this year. 18 cases were investigated and 3 were founded. All cases were investigated within the timelines set by law.

Dr. Barcadepone spoke about the October Professional Development days, during which, lockdown scenarios, where he acted as the perpetrator occurred. The Greeters, SLEO officers and Allendale Police responded utilizing District cameras and internal protocols. While acting as the perpetrator, he was found in each scenario in 18-38 seconds. Dr. Barcadepone stated that we do not discuss safety and security protocols in the District. However, he did attend a training with the Allendale Police Department run by officers who were on scene at the Parkland School mass shooting and received recommendations from them during a four hour training session. Many of the recommendations are already in place here.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Mrs. Gundersen informed the public of Bylaw 0167 procedures regarding the Open Public portion of the meeting also available on the website.

No comments/questions.

Meeting closed to the public for comments/questions on Agenda Items.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Buildings & Grounds – Did not meet

Policy – Mrs. Gundersen stated that the committee met but received conflicting information from the lawyers and the policy company so at this point there is nothing to report.

Finance – Did not meet

Education – Did not meet

Technology – Did not meet

Negotiations – Did not meet

MINUTES:

On motion by Mrs. Capano and seconded by Mr. Verbel, and unanimously carried by roll call vote, the Board approved the following resolution:

Mrs. Gundersen	YES
Mrs. Capano	YES
Mr. Fliegel	YES
Mrs. Rosner	ABSENT
Mr. Verbel	YES

BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the minutes of the following meeting:

September 13, 2023	Regular Session
September 13, 2023	Executive Session
September 27, 2023	Regular Minutes

PERSONNEL

On motion by Mrs. Capano and seconded by Mr. Verbel, and unanimously carried by roll call vote, the Board approved the following resolution:

1. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve Dominick Truglio, Brookside AM Campus Greeter and Donna Grippa, Brookside PM Campus Greeter for an additional two (2) hours of school security drill training on October 10, 2023.
2. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve Ms. Jessica DePaola, maternity leave replacement for 4th Grade Teacher Employee #4496, two (2) days of transition prior to maternity leave of Employee #4496 on October 25 & October 27, 2023, at the daily substitute rate of \$130 per day.
3. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to retroactively approve payment at \$40/hour, a total of \$560.00, to Ken Brown, P/T Phys Ed teacher, for working additional hours on the following dates for Professional Development days as follows:

DATE	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPEMENT	HOURS	PAYMENT
09-01-23	Back to School First Day	3.5/day	\$140/day
10-9-23 & 10-10-23	October PD Days	3.5/day	\$140/day {280.00 Total}
01-15-24	January PD Day	3.5/day	\$140/day

4. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to retroactively approve payment at \$40/hour, a total of \$560.00, to Mauricio Souza, P/T Art teacher, for working additional hours on the following dates for Professional Development days as follows:

DATE	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPEMENT	HOURS	PAYMENT
09-01-23	Back to School First Day	3.5/day	\$140/day
10-9-23 & 10-10-23	October PD Days	3.5/day	\$140/day {280.00 Total}
01-15-24	January PD Day	3.5/day	\$140/day

5. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept with regret the October 4, 2023 notice of retirement received from Diane Librot, Paraprofessional at Hillside School, effective January 1, 2024.
6. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the October 17, 2023 request from Employee #4599 for a leave of absence, effective October 17, 2023 through November 20, 2023; Employee #4599 will utilize sick days from October 17, 2023 through October 20, 2023 and the remainder of her leave will be in accordance with the Family and Medical Leave Act (“FMLA”).

EDUCATION

On motion by Mrs. Capano and seconded by Mr. Verbel, and unanimously carried by roll call vote, the Board approved the following resolution:

1. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the additional following Professional Development Planning at the rate of \$40/hour, total \$200.00, as follows:

Subject/ Grade	Projects and Outcome	Teachers	Number Of People Involved	Hours Per Participant	Total Hours
K-8	Professional Development Planning	S. Rutowski D. Demeduk K. Vassallo M. Blanco-Rivas J. Jacobsen	5	1	5

2. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following field trips:

Grade Level	Destination	Date(s) of Trip	Cost Per Student	Curricular Goals
K	Lee Memorial Library	10/12/23, 10/17/23, 10/18/23, 10/19/23	~ \$0 ~	<i>All Kindergarten students will get a library card and learn procedures to take out books from the town library. They will learn many programs that the library has to offer to the community.</i>

3. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the HIB decision for the following case:

HIB Case #:251118_HS_09182023

September 2023

4. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve payment to School Based Therapy Services, Inc., to conduct an Occupational Therapy evaluation, for the Student #001819, as recommended by the 504 Committee.
5. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the HIB decisions for the following cases:

HIB Case #:252868_BS_10132023

October 2023

HIB Case #:253090_BS_10162023

October 2023

SPECIAL EDUCATION

On motion by Mr. Verbel and seconded by Mrs. Capano, and unanimously carried by roll call vote, the Board approved the following resolution:

1. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve Bergen County Special Services to provide Home Instruction Services including prep time for Student #001025 as necessary for the 2023-2024 school year, as recommended by the Child Study Team.
2. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve payment to Bergen County Special Services for an AAC evaluation for student #001025, as recommended by the Child Study Team.
3. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve payment to School Based Therapy Services, Inc., to conduct an Occupational Therapy evaluation, for the Student #001022, as recommended by the Child Study Team.
4. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve payment to School Based Therapy Services, Inc., to conduct a one-hour Occupational Therapy Observation, for the Student #001502, as recommended by the Child Study Team.
5. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve payment to School Based Therapy Services, Inc., to conduct an Occupational Therapy evaluation, for the Student #001408, as recommended by the Child Study Team.
6. BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the attached Region I List of Independent Evaluators for the year 2023-2024, as per Special Education Attachment I.

7. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve payment to The Center for Child Development, for a Developmental Pediatric Evaluation at the rate of \$700 for Student #000110, as recommended by the Child Study Team.

BUSINESS OFFICE/FINANCE

On motion by Mrs. Capano and seconded by Mr. Verbel, and unanimously carried by roll call vote, the Board approved the following resolution:

1. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve unavoidable travel and costs as related in this resolution which are educationally necessary and fiscally prudent and are related to and within the scope of the employee’s current responsibilities and promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district. The reimbursements listed in this resolution are in compliance with state travel reimbursement guidelines as established by the Department of the Treasury and Board of Education policy in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et. seq. for the following seminars/workshops:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Conference Title</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Date of Trip</i>	<i>Total Estimate d Expenses *</i>
M. Souza	AENJ Fall Conference 2023	Long Branch, NJ	10/29/23 - 10/31/23	\$200.00
M. Barcadepone A. Popov	BCPO 2023 SNAP Conference	Garfield, NJ	10/19/23	~ \$0~
C. Dries A.Inga	Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale Training	Oradell, NJ	10/27/23	~ \$0~

*Does not include mileage and sustenance as they are contractual

2. BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the Bills List dated October 18, 2023, in the amount of \$297,138.96 as per Business Attachment I.
3. BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the Food Services Bill List dated October 18, 2023 in the amount of \$45,512.20 as per Business Attachment IA.
4. BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the preliminary year end Reports of the Treasurer for the month of August 2023 as per Business Attachment II.
5. BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the corrected July 2023 Treasurer’s report per Business Attachment Business Attachment IIA.
6. BE IT RESOLVED to approve the Reports of the Secretary to the Board of Education for the month of August 2023 per Business Attachment III.

7. BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the budgetary transfers for the month of August 2023, as per Business Attachment IV.
8. BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the donation and/or disposal of library books, with a zero current net book value, from Hillside School, as per Business Attachment V.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

On motion by Mrs. Capano and seconded by Mr. Verbel, and unanimously carried by roll call vote, the Board approved the following resolution:

1. BE IT RESOLVED to approve the use of the Cafeteria and Auditorium for the Holiday Observers for the Halloween Parade on October 31, 2023.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Board President will inform the public of Bylaw 0167 procedures.

No Comments

OLD BUSINESS

Nothing to report

CORRESPONDENCE

Dr. Barcadepone stated we received an email from the Irish Dancing team that Elaine Greenan was a part of who wanted to donate a tree in her memory. Dr. Barcadepone indicated there is a place in the new outdoor café area that would be perfect for the tree. Mrs. Gundersen agreed that this is a great idea and a beautiful way to honor her.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board will entertain a motion to adjourn the open meeting and go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters and negotiations. No action will be taken. The topics to be discussed are within the exemptions, which are permitted to be discussed and acted upon in private session, pursuant to P.L. 1975, Chapter 231. The Board will disclose the information as soon thereafter as possible once the reasons for nondisclosure no longer exist.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Mrs. Capano and seconded by Mr. Verbel, and unanimously carried by voice vote, the Board adjourned the meeting at 8:01pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Fisher
Confidential Secretary to the Business Administrator