

**REGULAR SESSION**  
**ALLENDALE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Wednesday, November 15, 2023**

The Regular Session of the Allendale Board of Education was held in the Brookside School Learning Commons on Wednesday, November 15, 2023. Board President Amy Gundersen called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

The flag salute was led by Mrs. Gundersen

Mrs. Engeleit 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  
   Mrs. Capano  
   Mr. Fliegel  
   Mrs. Rosner

Absent:            Mr. Verbel

Also Present:    Dr. Michael Barcadepone, Superintendent and Mrs. Maria Engeleit, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

**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 from the public in attendance.

**BOARD PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS**

Mrs. Gundersen thanked everyone for being present and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Barcadepone reported that he, with Principals Ms. Maroulis and Mr. Winkelstein, had conversations at AFEE and PTO meetings about behavior and decorum. Dr. Barcadepone spoke with the principals more on behavior to this point of the year, than collectively in his time here. He discussed the impacts of this behavior between parents, not just students, and how eventually it will impact education. He reiterated that everyone needs to work together so that what is going on around us doesn't transcend what we represent in Allendale. Being candid and honest, he doesn't feel it is not fixable but we need to work together. Mrs. Rosner asked that the Principals put in concert notes to parents the behavior expectations of attending students. Mrs. Capano asked if this is a pandemic or socio-economic issue. Dr. Barcadepone said it is not. The pandemic accelerated it but did not create it. Other districts don't always address it but Allendale will and continue doing so going forward. A lot of districts are facing this issue.

The new five-year Strategic Plan presentation was given to the Board of Education. Dr. Barcadepone discussed history with previous Strategic Plans and evolution to what we have now. Dr. Barcadepone went through each goal and objective discussing the action plans in

detail to reach these goals and objectives. Mr. Fliegel stated that it is unique that we get students involved in everything, especially the Brookside students going to Hillside.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Buildings & Grounds – Mrs. Capano stated they met and discussed Facilities Request for M. Blake tournament and declined the request. In the future they would like to amend the facilities request form to ask or indicate whether the requester is an Allendale resident being that this is the practice since COVID.

Policy - Mrs. Gundersen indicated they did not meet

Finance - Mrs. Rosner indicated they did not meet

Education – Mrs. Gundersen indicated they did not meet but plan to next week.

Technology – Mr. Fliegel indicated they did not meet

Negotiations – Mr. Fliegel indicated they did not meet

### **MINUTES:**

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

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

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

October 18, 2023	Regular Session
October 18, 2023	Executive Session

### **PERSONNEL**

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

1. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the October 23, 2023, request from Employee #4599 for a leave of absence, effective October 23, 2023 through January 1, 2024, in accordance with the Family and Medical Leave Act (“FMLA”).
2. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to retroactively approve Ms. Elizabeth Paccione, as a medical leave replacement teacher for Employee #4599 from October 25, 2023, through December 22, 2023, and two (2) days of shadowing on October 23 & October 24, 2023, at a Step 1, Column A per diem daily rate of \$313.70.
3. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve a stipend payment of \$125/night (\$375 for three overnights); \$75/returning day, \$30/incidental expenses as well as \$150 per day (\$600 four days) substitute nurse rate for Carmel Falcone, Substitute Nurse, as chaperone on the Grade 6 Disney Field Trip, from January 29, 2024 through February 1, 2024, as per Personnel Attachment I.

- 4. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve an extended absence, utilizing available sick days, for employee #4574 effective November 2, 2023, with an anticipated return on or about November 28, 2023.
- 5. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve Maureen Fisher, as Playground Aide at Hillside School for the 2023-2024 school year, at an hourly rate of \$17.00, as of November 16, 2023.
- 6. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve an extended absence, utilizing available sick days, for employee #4644, effective October 9, 2023 with an anticipated return on or about December 6, 2023.
- 7. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following substitute for the 2023-2024 school year:

Margo Quiriconi   {Nurse}

- 8. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept with regret the November 8, 2023 notice of retirement received from Maria Keenan, Kindergarten Teacher at Hillside School, effective June 30, 2024.

Mrs. Gundersen acknowledged Mrs. Keenan and what she has done for the district and her dedication is unapparelled. Dr. Barcadepone said she is the rock on continuity. Mrs. Capano stated it will be a big loss.

**EDUCATION**

On motion by Mrs. Rosner and seconded by Mrs. Capano and unanimously carried by roll call vote, the Board approved the following resolutions:

- 1. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the PTO Off-Site Student Event Requisition Form for the 2023-2024 school year, as per Education Attachment I.
- 2. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the second reading of the following Policies and Regulation from Alert No. 231, as per Education Attachment II:

Policy 1642.01   *Sick Leave*  
Regulation 1642.01                                     *Sick Leave*  
Policy 5111   *Eligibility of Resident/ Non-Resident Students*

- 3. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the HIB decisions for the following cases:

HIB Case #:253202\_BS\_10182023                     October 2023  
HIB Case#: 253533\_HS\_10202023                     October 2023

- 4. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the HIB decisions for the following cases:

HIB Case #:253747\_BS\_10242023                     October 2023  
HIB Case #:254571\_BS\_11032023                     November 2023

## **SPECIAL EDUCATION**

On motion by Mrs. Rosner and seconded by Mrs. Capano and unanimously carried by roll call vote, the Board approved the following resolutions:

1. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve payment to School Based Therapy Services, Inc., to provide five, 15 minute consultations at a cost of \$122.50, for Student #001616, as recommended by the Child Study Team.
2. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve payment to Dr. Asma Jamil Sadiq, for a Developmental Pediatric Evaluation not to exceed \$800 for Student #001022, 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, at a cost of \$300, for the Student #001022, as recommended by the Child Study Team.
4. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve payment to Dr. Asma Jamil Sadiq, for a Developmental Pediatric Evaluation at a rate of not to exceed \$800 for Student #000710, as recommended by the Child Study Team.
5. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve payment to Sameh Ragheb, MD, for a Psychiatric Evaluation at a rate not to exceed \$750 for Student #000710, as recommended by the Child Study Team.
6. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve payment to School Based Therapy Services, Inc., to conduct an Occupational Therapy evaluation, at a cost of \$300, for the Student #000710, as recommended by the Child Study Team.
7. BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve payment to School Based Therapy Services, Inc., to conduct an Occupational Therapy valuation, for the Student #000413, as recommended by the Child Study Team.

## **BUSINESS OFFICE/FINANCE**

On motion by Mrs. Capano and seconded by Mrs. Rosner and unanimously carried by roll call vote, the Board approved the following resolutions:

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:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Conference Title</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Date of Trip</b>	<b>Total Estimated Expenses*</b>
Alison Inga	Advanced Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management Training	Bergen Community College at the Meadowlands	11/15/23	0.00
Alison Inga	BTAM Best Practices for a Defensible Process and Special Education Considerations Melissa Reeves Ph.D., NCSP, LPC	Dragonetti Auditorium, County College of Morris	11/17/2023	0.00
Maria Engeleit	Facilities SBA Grant/ NJQSAC North	Birchwood Manor Whippany NJ	11/14/2023	125.00
Jenifer Goodell	NJSEAA QPR: Question Persuade and Refer (Three Steps Anyone Can Learn to Prevent Suicide)	Region V Oradell NJ	11/17/2023	0.00

\*Does not include mileage and sustenance as they are contractual

2. BE IT RESOLVED to approve the submission of the District Report of Transported Students (DRTRS) to the NJ Department of Education for the 23-24 year.
3. BE IT RESOLVED to approve the submission of the Mid-Year Budget Review for the 23-24 year to the Bergen County Office of the Department of Education.
4. BE IT RESOLVED to approve the submission the Comprehensive Maintenance Plan the M-1 report to the Bergen County Office of the Department of Education.
5. BE IT RESOLVED to approve the submission of the Application for School State Aid (ASSA) report for the 24-25 year to the NJ Department of Education.
6. BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the Bills List dated November 15, 2023 in the amount of \$1,454,092.02 as per Business Attachment I.
7. BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the Food Services Bill List dated November 15, 2023 in the amount of \$52,764.65 as per Business Attachment IA.
8. BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the Report of the Treasurer for the month of September 2023, as per Business Attachment II.
9. BE IT RESOLVED to approve the Report of the Secretary to the Board of Education for the month of September 2023, as per Business Attachment III.
10. BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the budgetary transfers for the month of September 2023 as per Business Attachment IV.
11. BE IT RESOLVED to approve a request for transfers of funds greater than 10% for review and approval to the Bergen County Office of the DOE.

## **BUILDINGS & GROUNDS**

On motion by Mrs. Capano and seconded by Mrs. Rosner and unanimously carried by roll call vote, the Board approved the following resolutions:

1. BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the USE OF FACILITIES REQUEST submitted by the Allendale Recreation Commission (ARC) for the Basketball Program, to be held in Brookside School's gymnasium Monday through Friday nights and Saturday 9am – 2pm, beginning Monday, 11/27/23, and ending on Monday, 3/29/23.
2. BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the USE OF FACILITIES REQUEST submitted by the Allendale Holiday Observers for Holiday Gifts with Santa in the Hillside cafeteria December 9<sup>th</sup> 2023, from 11am to 5pm.
3. BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the USE OF FACILITIES REQUEST submitted by the Allendale Holiday Observers for Holiday Gifts Wrapping meeting in the Hillside cafeteria December 6<sup>th</sup> 2023, from 6:30pm to 9:30pm.
4. BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the USE OF FACILITIES REQUEST submitted by the Allendale Holiday Observers for May Meeting in the Brookside cafeteria May 1<sup>st</sup> 2024, from 6:30pm to 10pm.
5. BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the USE OF FACILITIES REQUEST submitted by Allendale Cub Scout 591252 to sell wreaths at tables in the front and rear of Hillside school on November 11<sup>th</sup> 2023.
6. BE IT RESOLVED to authorize Settembrino Architects to submit the following capital improvement projects to the New Jersey Department of Education for review and approval:
  - Exterior Improvements at: Hillside Elementary School NJDOE Project No: 03-0040-020-23-1000
  - Toilet Renovations at: Brookside School NJDOE Project No: 03.0040-010-23-2000

The District is submitting these applications as Other Capital Projects, and are not seeking state funding.

## **MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Board President will inform the public of Bylaw 0167 procedures.

Mr. Steven Jansen asked if the Board of Education would consider a send/receive relationship and asked what is the history. Dr. Barcadepone stated that this has been discussed in the past, but at this time, we would not consider it because of new programs and specialized rooms if we took on more students we would have to do a referendum or go to class sizes greater than district practices.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Capano stated we need to revise the Facilities Use form. Since Mr. Verbel is not present she suggested discussing it at the next meeting. Mrs. Rosner, Mrs. Gundersen and Mr. Fliegel agreed and a discussion ensued regarding the liability and other risks of facilities use. Mrs. Engeleit stated that we will draft new forms and send them to the Building and Grounds committee for review. Mrs. Capano also asked what detention is, and what is it serving since children cannot go back for lunch and cannot do work. Dr. Barcadepone stated he didn't know enough about the process to comment and Mrs. Capano suggested taking it up at the Education Committee meeting. Mrs. Capano brought up class sizes for discussion. She pointed out that knowing there are more issues and differences in parenting perhaps counteract with reducing class sizes and it is worth reviewing it again. Mr. Fliegel said there are a lot of issues, for example where do we put the extra classes? Building onto Hillside is not feasible. Dr Barcadepone said we should bring this to the Education Committee. Mrs. Rosner asked for the number of extra classes added due to class practice. Bridget Adler, a parent in attendance, asked how our class sizes compare to other districts. Dr. Barcadepone said it depends on the year and grade but compared to Bergen County districts in general, we are a little under. He also stated that for calendar year 2024-2025 December 23 is a Monday. He asked for opinions on having a half day or being closed the whole week. Mrs. Gundersen stated that educationally, it means nothing. Dr. Barcadepone said it would just be a day to add to the 180 required.

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

none

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

none

### **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 Mrs. Rosner and unanimously carried by voice vote, the Board adjourned the meeting at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Ms. Maria Engeleit  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary