

**PARSIPPANY-TROY HILLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING OF
Thursday, October 29, 2020**

The Parsippany-Troy Hills Board of Education held its Regular Meeting on Thursday, October 29, 2020 at the Calabria Educational Center, 292 Parsippany Road, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

***Special Note:** As a result of the limitations placed on public assemblies due to COVID-19 related restrictions, this meeting was conducted via Zoom. The district website contained information on public participation.*

CALL TO ORDER

CALL TO ORDER

President Neglia called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

MEETING NOTICE

MEETING NOTICE

Mr. Neglia stated that in compliance with Chapter 231, Public Law 1975 entitled Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided as specified in the Act. A meeting notice was published in the Daily Record on January 8, 2020 and on the district website <http://www.pthsd.k12.nj.us>. Additionally, the Notice of Meeting was posted at the Municipal building and a copy of the Notice was filed with the Township Clerk on October 16, 2020. This is an official meeting.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Mr. Neglia asked everyone to stand for the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

ROLL CALL

Present: Mr. Timothy Berrios
Mr. Andrew Choffo
Mr. Matthew DeVitto
Mrs. Susy Golderer
Mrs. Judy Mayer
Mrs. Deborah Orme
Mrs. Kendra Von Achen
Mrs. Alison Cogan (arrived at 5:43 p.m.)
Mr. Frank Neglia

Also Present: Dr. Barbara Sargent, Superintendent
Dr. Alfred Savio, Business Administrator
Dr. Robert Sutter, Assistant Superintendent for HR
Mrs. Joan Benos, Chief of Staff/Public Information Officer
Mrs. Susan Dykstra, Comptroller
Mrs. Katherine Gilfillan, Esq. Board Attorney
Dr. Tali Axelrod, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum
Dr. Tarah Santaniello, Coordinating Supervisor of Special Education

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

**ADJOURN TO
EXEC SESSION**

Mr. Neglia made a motion to adjourn to closed session. The motion was moved by Mr. Berrios, seconded by Mrs. Von Achen and unanimously approved by roll call vote to adjourn to closed session for the purpose of discussing student HIB's which are confidential in nature under N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.1 et seq., and are being presented for approval at this evening's meeting and personnel items and legal matters.

1. This public meeting is hereby recessed into a private session where the public shall be excluded for the purpose of discussion and consideration of the following:
HIBs, Personnel items and legal matters.
2. It is the determination of the Board that a discussion of the aforementioned subject matter may be prejudicial to the interests of the parties involved and could result in a possible invasion of a right of privacy and be detrimental to the parties involved.
3. Discussion and/or action of the Board with regard to the above mentioned subject matter shall be (or not be) disclosed to the public within 60 days hereof.

RECONVENE OPEN SESSION

**RECONVENE
OPEN SESSION**

On a motion by Mrs. Cogan, seconded by Mr. Choffo and unanimously approved by roll call vote the regular meeting reconvened at 6:02 p.m.

STUDENT REPORTS

PHS: Lauren Smith and Gurleen Kaur – Miss Smith and Miss Kaur reported on the various activities going on at Parsippany High School and updated the Board on the various athletic teams.

PHHS: Kunal Chauhan – Mr. Chauhan reported on the various activities going on at Parsippany Hills High School and updated the Board on the various athletic teams.

Mr. Berrios commented that the Broadway Night was awesome.

Mrs. Mayer asked for clarification on the date and procedure for the clothing drive at PHS.

Miss. Smith responded that clothes can be brought in black garbage bags to the school between November 3 and November 5 and the student council gets 5 points per bag that are donated.

Mrs. Orme asked for information on the Baldwin Pizza Athlete of the Week.

Miss. Kaur responded that they are students who are in sports and are being recognized for their achievements.

Mr. Neglia suspended tonight's regular meeting agenda for a presentation

Update on School Based Therapeutic Program by Dr. Tarah Santaniello

Mrs. Cogan asked if the STRIVE programs at the middle schools and high schools are one period a day or all day classes.

Dr. Santaniello responded that at Brooklawn, the program is considered a self-contained program which is an eight period per day program. A student at Central who requires supports could be placed at Brooklawn if they require a self-contained program.

Mrs. Cogan asked if the program was only for students attending in person or if students who are on distance learning could take advantage of the program.

Dr. Santaniello responded that all students have access to the services whether they are remote or hybrid.

Mr. Berrios asked about the challenges administering the program with distance learning.

Dr. Santaniello explained that every student is being handled on an individual basis. Their needs are being looked at and the staff are looking how to increase their day if needed, if individual sessions can be held, what the needs of the parents are and collaborating and recognizing that it is a difficult time for all students and families.

Mr. DeVitto asked how the students previously in the ESS program have transitioned to the new program.

Dr. Santaniello explained that building relationships is extremely important and difficult to do. As the district transitioned away from ESS a “break up” was forced. The staff were made aware what it was going to take to build relationships with the students and families. The services in place are the same. The physical people are different. Staff have spoken highly of the collaboration. Staff believe the students have transitioned well but students have not been spoken to.

Mrs. Mayer asked if the four tiers have a role in determining who is in the STRIVE program or if it is open to anyone.

Dr. Santaniello responded that the BD, self-contained, IEP-driven program is for special education students only. At the high school level, any student can access learning strategies. In middle school, any student can access counseling. Students in the STRIVE program can be at any tier but is IEP-driven.

Mrs. Orme asked if the evening sessions are only available to students involved in this support system or if they are available to any parent in the district seeking tools and skills to use with their children.

Dr. Santaniello replied that because the program is being built, the focus right now is students within the STRIVE program.

Mrs. Orme asked whether there has been feedback from parents.

Dr. Santaniello responded that the case managers work daily with families and there have been some instances that required some consultation. Parents have not formally been asked for feedback but there are ongoing opportunities for collaboration.

Mrs. Von Achen asked what the top issues are in the middle school counseling.

Dr. Santaniello answered that those services are done on a general education level with students and are on topics that are more timely, that a guidance counselor does not have the time to devote to. Those sessions would involve education in the classroom or depression. The counselor at the middle school is trying to establish groups and is doing individual needs assessments and figuring out how to address the most amount of needs in the shortest amount of time.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

CORRESPONDENCE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Cogan reported that the Finance Committee met on October 15. The new New Jersey Educator's health plan was discussed and there was a presentation for the Board at the October 15 meeting. This presentation was in regards to the changes to the chapter 78 health benefits. This plan is not going to be "friendly" to our budget. There was a discussion on the status of the Township school tax payments and they are behind two payments at this point. Priorities for the Coronavirus Relief Act funds were set for PPE and different items. Filter changes are going to be made more frequently and cleaning supplies are always needed. It costs \$25,000 each time to change the filters and the added amount of changes was unbudgeted. Additional CARES Act funds have not been released yet. The district is on target with the budget with having \$3,000,000 of unspent funds at year end. The 21-22 budget calendar was requested and was handed out since the Finance Meeting. There was a discussion on another ESIP which starts with a Local Government Energy Audit which determines whether another energy savings improvement plan can be used to finance additional measures to reduce energy use throughout the district. The committee asked about refinancing the current ESIP and refinancing or renegotiating the solar power purchase agreement already in place. Alyssa's law compliance was discussed. The district's initial application was rejected because the district needs to find a way to connect the panic buttons already in place directly to the police station. The district has been allocated \$400,000 for security upgrades through the Securing Our Children's Future Bond Act and there is an application process for the use of those funds.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Orme asked why the township has been consistently behind with the tax payments.

Dr. Savio responded that he did not know the reason but he does remind the township that they are behind.

Mrs. Dykstra added that this has been an ongoing issue for years and the district has had to remind the township every year about every payment.

Mr. DeVitto asked if any update or correspondence was received since October 15.

Dr. Savio responded that there aren't comments but they do end up making a payment and then two weeks later they are behind again.

Mrs. Dykstra added that one payment has been received since the last meeting but even though that payment was received, there was another one coming due which makes them consistently two behind because of the rolling due dates.

Mr. Berrios asked how the delinquent tax payments have impacted the district currently.

Mrs. Dykstra responded that she monitors the payments coming in and monitors the cash balance, especially around pay dates. The balances are constantly being checked to make sure the district is ok and as soon as the balance is getting low she makes sure someone reaches out to the town to get the payments.

Mr. Berrios asked for clarification as to whether the district is able to fulfill its obligations.

Mrs. Dykstra responded that as of today the district can fulfill its obligations.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a Motion by Mr. DeVitto, seconded by Mr. Berrios, the Executive and Regular minutes of the October 15, 2020 meeting were voted on as follows:

BOARD MEMBERS	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	RECUSE	ABSENT	RESOLUTION NUMBERS
Mr. Berrios	X					
Mr. Choffo	X					
Mr. DeVitto	X					
Mrs. Golderer	Exec		Regular			
Mrs. Mayer	X					
Mrs. Orme	X					
Mrs. Von Achen	X					
Mrs. Cogan	X					
Mr. Neglia	X					

Dr. Sargent presented Superintendent Bulletin Number 6

Item #1 is the school self-assessment for determining grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights. This is a requirement annually for the school district. Dr. Sargent thanked Cory Wegesa, Coordinating Supervisor for Guidance and Nursing services for accumulating the data. There is a comparison from the 18-19 school scores to the 19-20 school scores. In most instances there is no change. In the areas where there are slight differences in the school scores, it is largely due to the fact that schools were closed March through June and many of the activities that would have taken place, some of the trainings and some of the faculty meeting topics were not held. Each school self-assesses their programs and how they are addressing the requirements of the HIB legislation.

This week Governor Murphy directed that new guidelines become effective on November 5. They require in part that employers require individuals at the work site to maintain at least 6 feet of distance from each other to the greatest extent possible while wearing masks and installing barriers where possible. Employers are to require all staff and visitors to wear cloth or disposable face masks while on the premises. Employers need to make masks available at the employer's expense. Where an employee cannot wear a mask due to a medical disability, the employer must provide an accommodation. The employer may deny entry to any visitor who refuses to wear a mask. The employer needs to provide sanitation materials as set forth in the executive order. The employer ensures employees engage in good hygiene practices. The employer ensures all high touch areas are routinely cleaned and disinfected. The employer conducts health checks of employees prior to each shift and sends home any employee exhibiting potential symptoms for COVID-19. The employer promptly notifies employees of any known exposure to COVID-19 at the work site. While school districts were already required to implement these practices within their reopening plans, our school and district leaders will review district policies and procedures related to COVID-19 with the staff to ensure everyone is in compliance. The district is thankful to the school families for your attention to the daily health screening forms. As we move into cooler weather and the onset of other illnesses it is imperative that you continue to monitor your child's and family's health and keep children home when they are not feeling well.

Last night the district celebrated the induction of nearly eighty high school seniors into the National Honor Society in an outdoor ceremony. Congratulations to the students and their families on this marvelous recognition.

In tomorrow's Friday letter to parents, Dr. Sargent will be explaining some adjustments to the elementary and middle school schedules that will take effect after the Thanksgiving break. Beginning on Monday, November 30, students will be able to attend Monday through Friday on alternate weeks. The district will continue to follow an early dismissal schedule and continue the week A and week B model. There will be no change at the high school level. High school students will continue with the current schedule and will continue to have virtual Fridays.

There is a need to make a change to the school calendar. Each year the NJEA holds a convention in Atlantic City and most school districts close on these days so NJEA members can attend workshops. In Parsippany, many educators find it difficult to get to Atlantic City due to childcare or travel. This year, however, the conference is virtual and more than 20% of the faculty have submitted conference leave forms to attend sessions. This is a wonderful opportunity for the staff. There have been many discussions about the need for more training in hybrid instruction and the NJEA convention will provide rich, professional support in this area. During the July and August meetings of the district's return to school committee, suspending the NJEA convention days in November was discussed in order to provide more time for instruction and more consistency of instruction for students. This was agreed upon by the committee members which included school administrators, association leadership and teacher representatives. It was agreed upon to apply the NJEA convention days to December so that the district could be closed for two full weeks during the winter holidays. The district's current calendar reflects this. With more than 160 educators now intending to attend the convention this year it puts the school in a position of not being able to properly staff the buildings and provide supervision to the children who are attending classes in person. The district will need to close on the NJEA convention days of November 5 and 6. Schools will be open on December 21 and 22 for instruction. A revised calendar will be shared tomorrow

with the staff and families. This is the last item on tonight's agenda.

For your consideration we have Bulletin items 1-25 with Addendum items 26-47 and Read-Ins

Dr. Savio presented the Secretary's Report

Tonight's Secretary's Report has the regular business motions.

**PARSIPPANY-TROY HILLS TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS
SUPERINTENDENT'S BOARD OF EDUCATION BULLETIN**

Number 6

October 29, 2020

The following motions are non-controversial, a matter of routine business and will be voted on by one motion:

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Dr. Tarah Santaniello, will be present to give an update on our School Based Therapeutic Program.

I. LA – LEADERSHIP ACTIONS – BARBARA SARGENT, ED.D.

1. Program for Determining Grades Self-Assessment

**GRADES SELF-
ASSESSMENT**

BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board accept the District Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of rights Act.

II. GA – GENERAL ADMINISTRATION – JONI BENOS

2. Gifts to the District

**GIFTS TO
THE DISTRICT**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board accept the following gifts and that the Superintendent send a letter of appreciation:

Parsippany Hills High School

Wall Landscaping of Parsippany donated their services of five landscapers for four hours each to help with the beautification of Parsippany Hills High School.

Wegmans of Parsippany donated \$500 to Parsippany Hills High School to purchase plants and river stone for Parsippany Hills High School.

Cerbos Garden Center of Parsippany has donated \$500 worth of plantings to Parsippany Hills High School.

Paul Miller Porsche has donated \$1,000 to purchase plants and river stone for Parsippany Hills High School.

Lake Hiawatha School

Staples of Parsippany has donated various school supplies to Lake Hiawatha School.

III. AP – ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING – TALI AXELROD, ED.D.

3. Observe – Pre-service Training

OBSERVE

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve Justin Carifi to virtually observe for his internship at Parsippany Hills High School with Christine Nagle for 10 days between December 1, 2020 and January 22, 2021 as part of his pre-service training at Fairleigh Dickinson University.

4. Summer Workshop

**SMR
WORKSHOP**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve payment of the amount indicated based on \$41 per hour to the individual named below who has completed preparation work and presented for workshops during the 2020 Summer Professional Learning Series:

<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Total</u>
Jessica Shackil	6	\$246.00

IV. HR – HUMAN RESOURCES – ROBERT SUTTER, ED.D.

5. **Retirement - PTHEA**

**RETIRE
PTHEA**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve the resignation, for the purpose of retirement, of Bonnie Griesemer, School Counselor at Eastlake Elementary School, effective January 1, 2021.

6. **Retirement - Local 32**

**RETIRE
LOCAL 32**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve the resignation, for the purpose of retirement, of Maria Cataldo, Head Custodian at Troy Hills Elementary School, effective March 1, 2021.

7. **Resignations - PTHEA**

**RESIGN
PTHEA**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve the resignation of Alyssa Rego, Teacher at Brooklawn Middle School, effective December 16, 2020.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve the resignation of Kelcey Brennan, Teacher at Parsippany High School, effective December 18, 2020.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve the resignation of Angela Fox, Lake Hiawatha teacher, effective October 29, 2020.

8. **Employment – Local 32**

**EMPLOY
LOCAL 32**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve the employment of the following individual as a part-time (5-hour) custodian on a 150-day probationary period for the 2020-2021 school year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Effective</u>	<u>Location</u>
Martha Gonzalez	\$15.10/hour	10/30/20	Troy Hills

9. **Appointment – Volunteer Extra-Curricular/Athletic Aide 2020-2021**

**APPOINT
VOL-EXTRA**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve the appointment of the following individual as a volunteer extra-curricular athletic aide in the area indicated:

Parsippany Hills High School
Luigi Napolitano Football

10. **Additional Sick Days –Non-Affiliated**

**ADD
SICK DAYS**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve thirty (30) additional non-accumulative sick days with pay for Employee #30307, Security Officer, for the 2020-2021 school year effective October 7, 2020 to December 3, 2020.

11. **Leave of Absence**

**LEAVE OF
ABSENCE**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve an unpaid leave of absence for employee #10562, Teacher, effective November 23, 2020 through June 22, 2021, pursuant to the PTHEA Agreement.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve a medical leave of absence for employee #30307, Security Officer, effective October 7, 2020 through December 7, 2020 utilizing accumulated sick leave and personal days, pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve a medical leave of absence for employee #30888, Secretary, effective October 9, 2020 through December 31, 2020 utilizing accumulated sick leave, pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

12. **Maternity Leave of Absence**

**MATERNITY LEAVE
OF ABSENCE**

Employee #49990, Supervisor, has requested a maternity leave of absence on or about January 11, 2021 through February 11, 2021 utilizing accumulated sick leave. Pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) and inclusive of New Jersey Family Leave Act (NJFLA), she is also requesting an unpaid childcare leave of absence from February 16, 2021 through April 30, 2021.

13. **Waiver of Teaching Load**

WAIVERS

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve the waiver of teaching load for the following individual who will provide class coverage as indicated below during the 2020-2021 school year:

Name	Location	Subject	Amount	Effect. Date	Class load	Formula
Eric Berkowitz	PHHS	Science	\$11,586.00	10/29/2020-06/22/2021	1	1/7

14. **Acting Confidential Secretary**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve Lisa Galioto, Business Office Secretary, to be the Acting Confidential Secretary in the Business Office, at the rate of \$253.02/per diem from October 9, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

15. **Corrections**

CORRECTIONS

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve the following corrections:

Lead Behaviorist

Christopher Birge

From: effective October 1, 2020

To: effective August 31, 2020

Approval of Employment - Pending Completion

Michele Olinto

From: effective November 2, 2020 (Replacement - Bazerman- retired)

To: effective November 23, 2020 (Replacement - Bazerman - transferred)

Transfer of Assignment - ESAPTH

Wanda DiVitanonio

From: effective October 26, 2020

To: effective October 21, 2020

Employment - Substitute Bus Aide

Brandon Gregory

From: \$17.20 per hour

To: \$16.33 per hour

Leave of Absence

Employee #30224

From: a medical leave of absence effective August 31, 2020 through November 20, 2020 utilizing accumulated sick leave, pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

To: a medical leave of absence effective August 31, 2020 through June 22, 2021 utilizing accumulated sick leave, pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

Employee #30261

From: a medical leave of absence effective August 31, 2020 through November 20, 2020 utilizing accumulated sick leave, pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)

To: a medical leave of absence effective August 31, 2020 through June 22, 2021 utilizing accumulated sick leave, pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

Employee #30642

From: a medical leave of absence effective August 31, 2020 through November 20, 2020 utilizing accumulated sick leave, pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

To: a medical leave of absence effective August 31, 2020 through December 11, 2020 utilizing accumulated sick leave, pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

Employee #30699

From: a medical leave of absence effective August 31, 2020 through November 20, 2020 utilizing accumulated sick leave, pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

To: a medical leave of absence effective August 31, 2020 through June 4, 2021 utilizing accumulated sick leave pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), and an unpaid medical leave of absence from June 7, 2021 through June 22, 2021.

Employee #30701

From: a medical leave of absence effective August 31, 2020 through November 20, 2020 utilizing accumulated sick leave, pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

To: a medical leave of absence effective August 31, 2020 through January 14, 2021 utilizing accumulated sick leave, pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), and an unpaid medical leave of absence from January 15, 2021 through June 22, 2021.

Change of Assignment

Lisa DeCicco

From: Acting Guidance Counselor at Parsippany High School effective October 16, 2020 through November 30, 2020 for which she shall receive her present salary of \$51,082.00 with an additional stipend of \$252.90 per diem for performing the duties of guidance counselor.

To: Acting Guidance Counselor at Parsippany High School effective October 16, 2020 through June 22, 2021 for which she shall receive her present salary of \$51,082.00 with an additional stipend of \$252.90 per diem for performing the duties of guidance counselor.

V. PPS- PUPIL PERSONNEL SERVICES

16. **Community Based Instruction**

**COMM BASED
INSTR**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve the following Community Based Instruction and Structured Learning Experience site for the 2020-2021 school year:

Bagel City, 988 Tabor Rd., Morris Plains, NJ 07950

17. **ESL Translators - District ESL TRANSLATORS**

**ESL TRANSLATOR
20-21**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve Mayra Hillgardner as a translator for ESL and Pupil Personnel Services, to be paid at a rate of \$41.00 per hour, for the 2020-2021 school year.

18. **Student Assistance**

STUD ASSIST

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve the following paraprofessional to assist students at school-sponsored activities/events during the fall season as per their IEP, at their hourly rate:

DeMonico, Judy, 1.5 hours, para support for extracurricular activities at PHS on 10/15/20

19. **Related Service Provider – 20-21 School Year**

SVC PROVIDER

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve Four Winds Hospital as a related services provider to provide home instruction at the rate of \$60.00 per hour retroactive for the 2020-2021 school year

20. **Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying**

HIB

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education affirms the Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB) report for October 29, 2019.

VI. BUSINESS/FINANCE – ALFRED SAVIO, ED.D.

21. **Payment of Bills**

**PAYMENT
OF BILLS**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the payment of current bills for October 29, 2020 for the 2020-2021 school year in the amount of \$5,822,201.86.

22. **PEPPM Consortium**

PEPPM

WHEREAS the Board, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Parsippany - Troy Hills Board of Education, pursuant to P.L.2011.c.139; N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-et.seq. and N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.29(c) and per Local Finance Notice No. LFN 2011- 35, may by resolution and without advertising for bids, purchase any goods under the Pennsylvania Education Purchasing Program for Microcomputers (“PEPPM”) National Contract Program for any national and/or regional cooperative entered into on behalf of the State by the Division of Purchase and Property in the Department of the Treasury; and

WHEREAS, the Parsippany - Troy Hills Board of Education may enter into contracts with the referenced PEPPM National Contract Program Vendors through this resolution and properly executed contracts, which shall be subject to all the conditions applicable to the current PEPPM National Contract Program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Parsippany - Troy Hills Board of Education does hereby authorize the district purchasing agent to become a member of the PEPPM consortium, at no cost to the Board.

23. **McKinney Vento Students**

**MCKINNEY
VENTO**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves, under the McKinney Vento Act, the following students who were received by the Borough of Butler School District for the 2019-2020 school year, with the Parsippany-Troy Hills School District fiscally responsible for the tuition.

P.L. \$14,745.00

S.L. \$16,053.00

24. **Parental Contract for Out-of-District Contract for Out-of-District**

**PARENT
CONTRACT**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Parsippany-Troy Hills Board of Education enter into a parental contract for student transportation with the parent of student #47021 for provision of transportation services to and from Lake Drive School, Mountain Lakes, NJ at an amount not to exceed \$2,284.00 from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

25. **OMNIA Partners Cooperative**

OMNIA

BE IT RESOLVED by the Parsippany-Troy Hills Board of Education that the Board, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Parsippany - Troy Hills Board of Education, pursuant to P.L.2011.c.139; N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-et.seq. and N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.29(c) and per Local Finance Notice No. LFN 2011- 35, may by resolution and without advertising for bids, purchase any goods under the OMNIA Partners Cooperative Contract for any national and/or regional cooperative entered into on behalf of the State by the Division of Purchase and Property in the Department of the Treasury; and

WHEREAS, the Parsippany - Troy Hills Board of Education may enter into contracts with the referenced OMNIA Partners Cooperative Contract vendors through this resolution and properly execute contracts, which shall be subject to all the conditions applicable to the current OMNIA Partners Cooperative Contract;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Parsippany – Troy Hills Board of Education does hereby authorize the district’s purchasing agent to become a member of the OMNIA Partners Cooperative, at no cost to the Board.

**PARSIPPANY-TROY HILLS TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS
 SUPERINTENDENT’S BOARD OF EDUCATION BULLETIN**

Number 6 ADDENDUM

October 29, 2020

The following motions are non-controversial, a matter of routine business and will be voted on by one motion:

26. Travel and Work Related Expenses

**TRAVEL &
 EXPENSES**

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et. seq. requires that each Board of Education adopt a formal policy and procedures relating to travel and expense reimbursement for its employees and Board members; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et. seq. requires that each Board of Education adopt a formal policy and procedures relating to travel and expense reimbursement for its employees and Board members; and

WHEREAS, the Parsippany-Troy Hills Board of Education (the “Board”) adopted a Travel Expense Reimbursement Policy that addresses the reimbursement of travel-related expenses by Board members and employees of the District; and

WHEREAS, the Board has considered all other relevant guidelines and circulars associated with the adoption of its Travel Expense Reimbursement Policy; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the travel listed in this Resolution is educationally necessary and fiscally prudent; and³

WHEREAS, the Board has concluded that the travel and expense reimbursements listed in this Resolution are directly related to and within the scope of the employee’s current responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the travel and expense reimbursements listed in this Resolution are for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

WHEREAS, the Board has concluded that the travel and expense reimbursements listed in this Resolution are in compliance with State travel reimbursement guidelines as established by the Department of Treasury and incorporated herein;

THEREFORE; BE IT RESOLVED, Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23B and Board Policy and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Parsippany-Troy Hills Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, approve the travel requests below.

Name	Purpose	Date	Location	Estimated Expenses
Courtney Breslauer	Foundations Level K Training	December 7, 2020	Virtual	\$300.00 Title IIA
Kathleen Zelles	School Based Occupational Therapy	December 11, 2020	Virtual	\$279.00 IDEA-B

27. Labor Rates & Materials Bid:
Clocks/Intercoms/PA Systems Service and Repairs

**CLOCKS/
 INTERCOM/PA BID**

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et. seq., the Board of Education advertised and solicited for bids for Labor Rates and Materials: Clocks/Intercoms/PA Systems Service and Repairs (Bid No: 2020/21-3) for the period beginning November 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with that advertisement, two (2) bids were received and opened on Tuesday, October 27, 2020; and

WHEREAS, both of the bids received were responsive; and

WHEREAS, there are no material defects in Sal Electric Company’s bid, therefore, Sal Electric Company represents the lowest responsive and responsible bidder; and

10/27/20 10:00 Am	Craftsman Title	Straight Time	Over- Time	Week- End	Holiday	Total
Coskey Elec- tronic Systems	Journeyman	\$98.00	\$125.00	\$98.00	\$125.00	
	Helper	\$98.00	\$125.00	\$98.00	\$125.00	
	Other	\$98.00	\$125.00	\$98.00	\$125.00	
	Sum	\$294.00	\$375.00	\$294.00	\$375.00	\$1,338.00
	Average Hourly Rate					\$111.50
Sal Electric Company	Journeyman	\$92.00	\$138.00	\$138.00	\$184.00	
	Helper	\$25.00	\$35.00	\$25.00	\$35.00	
	Driver	\$20.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$30.00	
	Sum	\$137.00	\$198.00	\$188.00	\$249.00	\$772.00
	Average Hourly Rate					\$64.33

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby awards a contract to Sal Electric Company, Jersey City, NJ, upon the terms and conditions set forth in the bid which shall be incorporated into a written agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education authorizes the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to execute said contract on behalf of the Board, a copy of which shall remain on file in the Business Office.

28. **Labor Rates & Materials Bid:**
**Fire & Burglar Alarms/Sprinklers/Extinguishers/
Suppression Systems Service & Repairs**

**FIRE/BURGLAR
ALARMS BID**

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et. seq., the Board of Education advertised and solicited for bids for Labor Rates and Materials: Fire and Burglar Alarms/ Sprinklers/Extinguishers/Suppression Systems Service and Repairs (Bid No: 2020/21-4) for the period beginning November 1, 2020 through June 30, 2022; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with that advertisement, two (2) bids were received and opened on Tuesday, October 27, 2020; and

	Absolute Protective Services, Inc.	Johnson Controls Fire Protection
1. Annual Inspections Certification & Monitoring		
A. Fire Alarm System Inspection	\$12,000.00/school year	\$22,439.55/school year
B. Fire Sprinkler System Inspection	\$3,600.00/school year	\$3,105.00/school year
C. Fire Extinguisher Inspection & Certification	\$2,240.00/school year	\$2,700.00/school year
D. Fire Suppression Inspection & Certification	\$1,600.00/school year	\$2,567.95/school year
E. Backflow Prevention Inspection	\$1,200.00/school year	\$1,897.50/school year
F. Central Station Alarm Monitoring	\$7,128.00/school year	\$5,670.00/school year
Total (A-F)	\$27,768.00/school year	\$38,380.00/school year
2. Burglar Alarm System Repair - Bosch		
A. Repair and/or Service: Straight	\$90.00/hour	No response
B. Repair and/or Service: Overtime, Weekend, Holiday	\$125.00/hour	No response
Total (A-B)	\$215.00	-----
3. Fire Alarm System Repair–SilentKnight, Notifier, Simplex		
A. Repair and/or Service: Straight	\$90.00/hour	\$111.96
B. Repair and/or Service: Overtime, Weekend, Holiday	\$125.00/hour	\$188.16 – overtime \$223.91–wkend/holiday
Total (A-B)	\$215.00	
4. Fire Sprinkler System Repair		
A. Repair and/or Service: Straight	\$90.00/hour	\$107.94
B. Repair and/or Service: Overtime, Weekend, Holiday	\$125.00/hour	\$161.90 – overtime \$215.87–wkend/holiday
Total (A-B)	\$215.00	
5. Fire Smoke Detector		
A. Smoke Detector Testing:	\$5.00/unit	No response
Total (A)	\$5.00	-----
6. Fire Extinguisher (Include CO2, ABC, AAAF, Class F, Class K & other Manufacturers)		
A. Halon Fire Extinguisher (where applicable)	\$15.00/pound	No response
B. Hydrostatic Testing:	\$15.00/cylinder	\$45.00
C. Recharge:	\$10.00/extinguisher	\$41.75
Total (A-C):	\$40.00	-----
7. Suppression System (Include Ansul, Kitchen Knight II by Pyro Chem, Kidde, Denlar Fire Protection, Range Guard and Halon by PemAll)		
A. Hydrostatic Testing:	\$150.00 per system	No response
B. Recharge with Solids:	\$0.00/pound	No response
C. Recharge Fire Liquids:	\$70.00/gallon	No response
D. Replace Fuse Link:	\$9.50/fuse link	No response
E. Replace Nozzle Cup	\$5.00/nozzle cup	No response
F. Replace Fire Suppression System Cartridge	\$15.00/cartridge	No response
Total (A-F)	\$240.50	-----

Material % Mark Up ** Not to exceed 10%**		
Burglar Alarm	10%	10%
Fire Smoke Detector	10%	10%
Fire Alarm	10%	10%
Fire Sprinkler	10%	10%
Fire Extinguisher	10%	10%
Suppression System	10%	10%

WHEREAS, the bid submitted by Johnson Controls Fire Protection contained the material defect of omitting the classifications required by the bid specifications and therefore must be, and is, rejected;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby awards a contract to Absolute Protective Systems, Inc., of Piscataway, NJ upon the terms and conditions set forth in the bid which shall be incorporated into a written agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education authorizes the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to execute said contract on behalf of the Board, a copy of which shall remain on file in the Business Office.

29. **Maternity Leave of Absence**

**MATERNITY LEAVE
OF ABSENCE**

Employee #50052, School Psychologist, has requested a maternity leave of absence on or about February 17, 2021 through March 12, 2021 utilizing accumulated sick leave. Pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) and inclusive of New Jersey Family Leave Act (NJFLA), she is also requesting an unpaid childcare leave of absence from March 15, 2021 through June 11, 2021, and pursuant to the PTHEA Agreement, she is also requesting an unpaid leave of absence from June 14, 2021 through June 22, 2021.

30. **Vendor Approval**

VENDOR

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve Dr. Christy Mulligan to present virtually at Family Connections on 11/17/2020 at a cost fee of \$185 per hour, not to exceed two hours, paid for through IDEA Grant Professional Development Funds.

31. **Training Session**

**TRAINING
SESSION**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve Frontline Technologies Group to facilitate remote training sessions at the cost of \$200.00 per hour, not to exceed three hours, paid for through IDEA Grant Professional Development Funds.

32. **Related Services Vendor**

REL SVCS

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve Platt Psychiatric Associates, LLC as a related services provider to provide psychiatric consultations at the rate of \$825.00 per consultation and \$975.00 fee for expedited student psychiatric consultations.

33. **ESL Translator 2020-2021 School Year**

ESL TRANSLATOR

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve Olga Maryn as a translator for ESL and Pupil Personnel Services, to be paid at the rate of \$41.00 per hour for the 2020-2021 school year.

34. **Retirement - PTHEA**

RETIRE
PTHEA

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve the resignation, for the purpose of retirement, of Bettina Beal, Teacher at Rockaway Meadow, effective January 1, 2021.

35. **Retirement - Local 32**

RETIRE
LOCAL 32

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve the resignation, for the purpose of retirement, of Robert Yates, Maintenance Worker, effective March 1, 2021.

36. **Resignation - PTHEA**

RESIGN
PTHEA

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve the resignation of Nicole DellaFave, Teacher at Lake Hiawatha Elementary School, effective January 1, 2021.

37. **Stipends – ABA Trained Professional Stipends**

ABA STIPEND

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve a stipend change for Susan Ollo at Troy Hills School. The stipend of \$1,200 ends on 10/20/20 and the stipend of \$1,500 (prorated) beginning on 10/21/20-6/22/21.

38. **Resignation - PTHESA**

RESIGN
PTHESA

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve the following resignation as indicated below:

Effective November 20, 2020

Lisa Terrone-Tello Paraprofessional Rockaway Meadow Elementary School

39. **Employment - ESAPTH - Pending**

**EMPLOY
ESAPTH**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve the employment of Lisa Ward who has been selected as a Secretary at Parsippany Hills High School replacing Wanda DiVitantonio. Ms. Ward will be placed on 12 month - Guide B - Step 4 and receive \$47,907.00, effective November 16, 2020.

40. **Employment - Local 32**

**EMPLOY
LOCAL 32**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve the employment of the following individual on a 150-day probationary period as indicated below, subject to any guide placement or other salary adjustment that may be due upon completion of the negotiations between the Board of Education and Local 32:

Name	Salary	Effective	Assignment	School
Stanley Van Dyke	\$31,037.00 + \$1,458.00 (2nd Shift)	11/2/20	Custodian	Maint.

(Replacing Maria Barahona)

41. **Transfer of Assignment**

**TRANSFER
OF ASSIGNMENT**

Michele Michels - Paraprofessional

From: Brooklawn Middle School
To: Central Middle School
Effective 10/27/2020

42. **Leave of Absence - EFMLEA**

**LEAVE OF
ABSENCE – EFMLEA**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve a childcare leave of absence for Employee # 49847, Payroll Manager, effective November 23, 2020 through January 2, 2021 pursuant to the Emergency Family and Medical Leave Extension Act (EFMLEA). She will be paid at 2/3 her per diem salary, not to exceed \$200.00 per day, up to a maximum of \$12,000.00 for 12 weeks.

43. **Title I Morning Math Enrichment Program**

**TITLE I
MATH ENRICH**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve the following teachers for the Morning Math Enrichment Program at a rate of \$50.00 per session to be paid out of the Title I Grant Funds. This program will run from approximately November 2020 through March 2021, one day per week, 8:00 am - 8:40 am:

Intervale Elementary School

Christine Beronio
Madeline Brown
Heather Harrigan

Erin Maloney
Allison Mania
Damaris Millheim
Jemila Najjar-Keith
Doreen Worthington

Knollwood Elementary School

Jenna Brennan
Marie Gundlah
Emily Holmsen
Ashley Melnick
Anita Stabile
Tammy Walsh
Sarah Washington

Rockaway Meadow Elementary School

Linda Algieri
Olivia Crapis
Gina Masterson
Alice Thomas
Jason Trawinski

Troy Hills Elementary School

Katherine Cascioli
Jolaine Longa
Donna Martino
Susan Scholtz
Danielle Visoskas
Tina von Dohlen

44. **Leaves of Absence**

**LEAVES OF
ABSENCE**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve an unpaid leave of absence for employee #11411, Teacher, effective November 23, 2020 through June 22, 2021, pursuant to the PTHEA Agreement.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve a medical leave of absence for employee #30051, Teacher, effective September 24, 2020 through November 13, 2020 utilizing accumulated sick leave, pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve a medical leave of absence for employee #30655, Teacher, effective November 23, 2020 through January 29, 2020 utilizing accumulated sick leave.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve a medical leave of absence for employee #31195, Teacher, effective November 23, 2020 through January 25, 2021 utilizing accumulated sick leave and personal days. And pursuant to the PTHEA Agreement, she is also requesting an unpaid leave of absence effective January 26, 2021 through June 22, 2021.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve an unpaid leave of absence for employee #49447, Paraprofessional, effective November 23, 2020 through June 22, 2021.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve an unpaid leave of absence for employee #49449, Teacher, effective November 23, 2020 through June 22, 2021, pursuant to the PTHEA Agreement.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve an unpaid leave of absence for employee #49625, Bus Aide, effective November 23, 2020 through June 22, 2021.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve an unpaid leave of absence for employee #49877, Paraprofessional, effective November 23, 2020 through June 22, 2021.

45. **Corrections**

CORRECTIONS

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve the following corrections:

Lead Teachers

Brooklawn

From: Physical Education/Health - Brad Wilbur
To: Physical Education/Health - Gia Rosamilia

Maternity Leave of Absence

Employee #40533

From: a maternity leave of absence on or about October 7, 2020 through December 8, 2020 utilizing accumulated sick leave. Pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) and inclusive of New Jersey Family Leave Act (NJFLA), she is also requesting an unpaid childcare leave of absence from December 9, 2020 through March 9, 2021.

To: a maternity leave of absence on or about October 7, 2020 through November 20, 2020 utilizing accumulated sick leave. Pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) and inclusive of New Jersey Family Leave Act (NJFLA), she is also requesting an unpaid childcare leave of absence from November 23, 2020 through February 26, 2021.

46. **RESOLUTION OF THE PARSIPPANY-TROY HILLS**
BOARD OF EDUCATION

SETTLEMENT

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the settlement in the student matter captioned, *G.B. and L.B. o/b/o N.B. v. Parsippany-Troy Hills Board of Education*, Agency Reference Number: 2020-31544, in accordance with the terms of the Settlement Agreement

Parsippany-Troy Hills Board of Education
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 29, 2020

and Release provided to the Board which is on file in the office of the Business Administrator.

47. **2020-2021 Revised School Year Calendar**

**2020-2021
CALENDAR**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve the revision to the 2020-2021 school year calendar as follows:

DAY/DATE

Thursday and Friday November 5 and 6	<u>Schools Closed</u>
December 21 and 22	<u>Schools Open</u>

Superintendent's Bulletin No. 6
October 29, 2020
Read-Ins

Page/Number	Explanation
Page 2 #3	<p><u>Observe – Pre-service Training</u> ADD:</p> <p>BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve Julianna Kadian to virtually observe for her internship at Northvail Elementary School with Kim Clark, Tara DeGeorge and Katelyn Walsh for 1 day as part of her pre-service training at Seton Hall University.</p>
Page 6 #15	<p><u>Change of Assignment</u> <u>Lisa DeCicco Acting Guidance Counselor</u> Change</p> <p>From: a salary of \$51,082.00 with an additional stipend of \$252.90 To: a salary of \$51,082.00 with an additional stipend of \$67.24</p>
Page 7 # 18	<p><u>Related Services Provider</u> ADD</p> <p>Center for Children's Behavioral Health to provide home instruction at the rate of \$85.00 per hour for the 2020-2021 school year.</p>

NEW BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Berrios reported that he attended the New Jersey School Boards virtual workshop this past week. He said there were a number of interesting sessions which were aligned to what all school districts are currently going through. He attended many sessions in school facilities, technology and COVID-19 leadership. He found it reassuring that the district are not doing anything unique to what other districts are doing.

Mrs. Von Achen presented an idea of the district releasing tech tips for parents and students specific to virtual learning, which she shared with the communications and teaching and learning committees. She was hoping the IT department could review the tickets and see what topics there are a number of tickets for. She would also like to see more of a social media presence from the district.

Mrs. Mayer also attended the virtual New Jersey School Boards workshop and she commented that she was able to attend more sessions because it was virtual. She reminded the board members that the sessions would be available for the year.

Mr. DeVitto attended one day of the New Jersey School Boards workshop and summarized some of the sessions he attended. He took the opportunity to recognize the teachers and the paraprofessionals in the district for all the hard work they are doing. He reminded everyone that Election Day is next Tuesday and encouraged everyone to vote.

Dr. Sargent pointed out that there is a special page for virtual learning tech support on the district's website under family resources and there are questions answered. The tech department tracks some consistently asked questions and tries to provide responses to them.

Mr. Choffo also encouraged people to exercise their right to vote.

Mrs. Golderer asked if any of the schools were holding in-person voting.

Dr. Sargent responded that Brooklawn Middle School and Central Middle School are open as polling sites.

HEARING OF PUBLIC

HEARING OF PUBLIC

Wendy Barber – Ms. Barber is concerned about the removal of virtual Fridays at the elementary level because those days are used for meeting with students but also for small group meetings,

individual meetings with students, grading, and planning time with the grade level partner. She would like to keep virtual Fridays or implement a weekly afternoon of professional development during school hours.

Jackie Izzo – Ms. Izzo feels disrespected, untrusted and manipulated because she doesn't know how to keep a safe distance from students in the classroom and wants the district to do right by its employees.

Meg Garcia – Ms. Garcia would like the Board, as her employer, to support and respect the teachers. She is grateful for the flexibility to work from home on Fridays. Allowing work from home after students leave would help her to feel supported.

Nicole Dellafave – Ms. Dellafave wants the Board to look at what is going on inside the schools with regards to the treatment of staff. She recently submitted her resignation because of the current climate of education and the decisions made in Parsippany over the past couple of months.

Nicole Jordan – Ms. Jordan wants to be able to work from home in the afternoons along with flexibility and compassion.

Ann Boscia – Ms. Boscia wants to keep virtual Fridays and to be able to work from home in the afternoon.

Sarah Wills – Ms. Wills wants to keep virtual Fridays and to be offered professional development. She doesn't believe the teachers have the assurances or protocols that they are being kept safe and the children are being kept safe.

Madeline Brown – Ms. Brown shared her various activities and experiences that she performs on a daily basis.

Stacy Van Seggern – Ms. Van Seggern asked the Board to help and support the teachers and wants to be treated with respect and compassion.

Melanie Ellis – Ms. Ellis has been keeping windows open and the air on for the safety of herself and her students. Because of this her classroom is cold and isn't conducive to learning. She wants teachers to be able to work from home when students are not present.

Susie Scholz – Ms. Scholz is concerned about formal assessments, increased classroom time when COVID cases are on the rise, a lack of professional development days and not being trusted to work from home in the afternoon.

Kate Washington – Ms. Washington is concerned about losing virtual Fridays due to the flexibility it provides and also as a planning day. She is concerned how deep cleaning between the two cohorts can happen and is not sure how to perform student assessments virtually and with validity.

Mara Mamroud – Ms. Mamroud explained the difficulties in providing speech therapy over the computer, wearing a mask, while inside the office. She expressed concern about the safety of the related service providers as they see a greater number of students as well as being able to effectively provide services to students and keep them safe.

Elena Betines – Ms. Betines is concerned and unhappy about the additional undue stress being placed upon the elementary teachers due to the requirement to assess students using Fountas & Pinnell. She is also concerned about having to be in the building to teach students in person on Fridays and conducting virtual parent teacher conferences from her classroom.

Patricia Drechsel – Ms. Drechsel is concerned about losing virtual Fridays as COVID cases rise. She is also concerned about ventilation systems.

Laura Hart – Ms. Hart is concerned with losing virtual Fridays because she uses those days to meet with small groups of students. She is also concerned about doing the Fountas & Pinnel assessments.

Maureen Hendricks – Ms. Hendricks is concerned about preschool students not having virtual Fridays and asked the Board to consider the safety of all staff and students.

Jackie Forte – Ms. Forte outlined the different challenges she encounters on a daily basis and asked to be supported and respected.

Lori Savarese – Ms. Savarese said it is hard to maintain a six-foot distance while teaching and it is difficult to teach ESL while wearing a mask. She wants to know the rationale behind the teachers being in the school when the students aren't there. She added that it would be beneficial to be able to teach on virtual Fridays and in the afternoons without a mask on. She also asked for more professional development.

Emily Alston – Ms. Alston is concerned about no common planning time or training time for the preschool program.

Beth DiBello – Ms. DiBello is concerned about losing virtual Fridays and having to perform Fountas & Pinnel assessments as well as the performance of deep cleaning.

Denise Pietropinto – Ms. Pietropinto is opposed to the additional day of in-person learning and wants to keep the schedule “as is”.

Gail Buck – Ms. Buck supports the teachers and praised them for their hard work. She feels the school day should be over at 12 or 1 pm and Fridays should be used for “catch up”.

Amanda Finnerty – Ms. Finnerty explained the use of virtual Fridays and expressed her concern over removing it.

Kathryn Krimmel – Ms. Krimmel asked for virtual Fridays to train staff, troubleshoot, self-train and to have time to prepare.

Anthony Vlahakes – Mr. Vlahakes asked the Board to keep virtual Fridays as it allows teachers to “catch up” and is a way to ensure the students are getting the best education possible.

Rebecca Hadjiloucas – Ms. Hadjiloucas is concerned that district is not prepared to keep students safe and removing virtual Fridays is adding an additional day of exposure. She wants to keep

virtual Fridays as a day for students to “catch up” and for teachers to check in with struggling students, to plan, to grade and continue to become familiar with hybrid learning. She also wants the ability to work from home in the afternoons.

Dr. Sargent thanked the teachers and parents for the thoughtful and heartfelt remarks. The district has been messaging regularly that any educator with special issues and personal concerns is encouraged to speak first with their building principal. Principals have made accommodations to teachers who have special situations. They have excused teachers to work from home in the afternoon. Dr. Sargent encouraged teachers to take advantage of having a conversation with their building principal. The professional development committee has been meeting and the representatives from the schools shared the sentiment that professional training is sorely needed as we are living through what appears to be an entire year of hybrid instruction. She reinforced that it was the feeling of all the teachers on the professional development committee that the Friday afternoon that has been set aside on October 30 be unscheduled so teachers could seek their own training, review their own webinars and decide for themselves what their needs were. The district listened and responded to that. That does not mean that October 30 is the only Friday afternoon of professional development that will happen, but the district is taking schedules weeks at a time and months at a time. It has already been indicated that November 5 and 6 will be closed so that teachers can pursue additional training through NJEA and the district will look again at the November and December schedules to include more training time. There have been a number of teachers speak about the reading assessments and Fountas & Pinnell. While those researchers indicate that the reliability and validity of the testing as it relates to standardized purposes and benchmark purposes is to be considered, the district is using those assessments to simply understand what a child’s reading level is. The supervisors and principals stand ready to assist in this area. Additionally, at the elementary schools the related arts teachers have been an enormous support to the classroom teachers and are often a second teacher in the room to assist with instruction and assessment. Many preschool teachers have spoken tonight and at the beginning of the school year it was many of the preschool and special education teachers who asked for five days of instruction to meet the unique needs of the children and the district and the families of those children are grateful that the district could make that happen. For faculty members who have been watching the board meetings throughout August and September and October you will recall that there have been numerous parents online, some crying out of frustration and concern for their children, that they aren’t getting the amount of instructional time that they need and they aren’t in person as often as they would like. You have heard these parents ask “Why can’t we combine the cohorts?”, “Why can’t they be in a full day of school?” and yet the district has held to a half day out of respect and concern for the items noted about eating lunch in the school day and not combining the cohorts to keep class sizes small. The students need us and they need as much instruction as we can provide and adding Friday in while still honoring and preserving professional training time is truly necessary. There have been issues brought up about HVAC and Dr. Sargent reinforced that the district is in compliance with administrative code and The Road Back standards. She explained that staff are not required to keep windows or doors open, and that is at their discretion. If teachers are uncomfortable, whether it be from a temperature aspect or a safety aspect in the classroom they must bring that forward to the building principal so that the district can troubleshoot and support the teachers. Dr. Sargent reminded teachers that the entire year is going to be extremely challenging and this is as difficult as it ever will be. She reminded staff that if anyone is feeling that they need emotional support, they could reach out to either their counselors or the district’s employee assistance program. The employee assistance program is extremely confidential program. The district wants to make sure that if anyone is feeling stressed and anxious

and is not able to do the work that they have been called to do that those systems are in place to support them.

Mrs. Orme appreciated the perspectives provided by the teachers this evening. She said that every board member and every administrator in the district cares for each of them. The Board sincerely cares about members of the community and the staff as well. Mrs. Orme thanked Dr. Sargent for her clarification on the afternoons and whether staff could go home if they feel the need to and for reiterating to the staff that they can bring that information to their principal.

Mr. Berrios said that it was great to hear from the teachers and he hears what is being said. He wanted to remind everyone that he is one of the board members in the board office with a mask on. His perspective is that as long as the teachers are teaching he makes it his priority to attend meetings in person. Per one of the comments made earlier, he would love to visit a classroom with the superintendent's and principal's permission as it is not something that he fears. He believes that the teachers are awesome. There is no easy answer but the safety and well-being of the staff is what is being discussed often.

Mr. Neglia added that these are unprecedented times and difficult for everyone. The Board relies on the administration and administrators who oversee the schools to make decisions based on the safety and the well-being of everyone. They do their best to follow guidelines. We can only work together and do what is best for everyone. He stated that he has the utmost respect for the district's educators.

Closing of Public Session.

**ROLL CALL: SUPERINTENDENT'S BULLETIN #6
 AND SECRETARY'S REPORT**

**ROLL CALL
 VOTES**

On a motion by Mrs. Cogan seconded by Mr. Choffo, Superintendent's Bulletin Number 6 was voted on as follows:

BOARD MEMBERS	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	RECUSE	ABSENT	RESOLUTION NUMBERS
Mr. Berrios	X					
Mr. Choffo	X					
Mr. DeVitto	X			26		
Mrs. Golderer	X					
Mrs. Mayer	X					
Mrs. Orme	X					
Mrs. Von Achen	X					
Mrs. Cogan	X					
Mr. Neglia	X					

ADJOURN

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the executive and public meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m. on a motion by Mr. DeVitto, seconded by Mr. Berrios and voted on as follows:

Parsippany-Troy Hills Board of Education
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 29, 2020

BOARD MEMBERS	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	RECUSE	ABSENT	RESOLUTION NUMBERS
Mr. Berrios	X					
Mr. Choffo	X					
Mr. DeVitto	X					
Mrs. Golderer	X					
Mrs. Mayer	X					
Mrs. Orme	X					
Mrs. Von Achen	X					
Mrs. Cogan	X					
Mr. Neglia	X					

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Dykstra
Comptroller

**FOR ALL APPENDICES AND EXHIBIT ATTACHMENTS
AFOREMENTIONED IN THESE MINUTES, PLEASE
REFER TO THE SUPERINTENDENT'S BULLETIN # 6
INCLUSIVE OF THE SECRETARY REPORT
INITIALLY RECEIVED IN THE BOARD PACKET
AND NOW POSTED AT THE DISTRICT WEBSITE**