

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
OAKLAND, NEW JERSEY**

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Meeting A Regular Monthly Meeting of the Board of Education was held at the Administration Office on the above date. The meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM by Mr. Gaffney.

Meeting Notice Mr. Gaffney led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance and read the Open Public Meetings announcement as follows: The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Oakland Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted on May 4, 2015 in the Municipal Building, the Board Offices, all school offices and copies sent to newspapers serving Oakland: The Record, Ridgewood News and Suburban News. The Board reserves the right to limit public discussion of personnel items, so as to preserve individual privacy.

The Board appreciates the concerns and comments expressed by the public and will take them into consideration. However, please remain advised that, neither the Board nor the administration may comment on or respond to public inquiries or statements regarding any internal personnel matters involving a District employee.

Please be further advised that there is no privilege or qualified privilege with regard to any statements that you make before the Board of Education. Furthermore, in addition to their respective rights to privacy, employees of this school district retain all rights regarding defamation and slander according the laws of New Jersey.

Persons wishing to speak must, upon being recognized, rise, sign in, and state their names and addresses. Each speaker shall be limited to two minutes. A speaker who has not finished in the allotted time will be directed by the presiding officer to summarize quickly and relinquish the floor within 30 seconds.

Roll Call The following members were present: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Gaffney, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin. Also present were Dr. Gina M. Coffaro, Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Rachel DeCarlo, Board Secretary/Business Administrator, five staff members and fifteen members of the public.

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Report of the Superintendent of Schools

- American Legion Elementary Coloring Contest Winners – Award Presentation
- Chief Kasper, Oakland Police Department – Safety Update
Mr. Scerbo spoke about swatting incidents in New Jersey

Spring Dates

Friday, March 25, 2016 (Good Friday)
Monday-Friday, April 4-8, 2016 (Spring Break)

The Proposed 2016/2017 School District Budget

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| Public Hearing: | Tuesday, March 29, 2016 | 7:30 PM |
| Budget Presentation to PTO's: | Tuesday, April 12, 2016 | 7:00 PM |
| Board Elections: | Tuesday, April 19, 2016 | 2:00-9:00 PM |

Report of the Business Administrator

Audience Participation

Mr. Scerbo moved and Ms. Shelkin seconded to open meeting for public comment on the Agenda of this meeting. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Gaffney, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin. Motion carried.

None

Mr. Scerbo moved and Ms. Cooper seconded to close meeting for public comment on the Agenda of this meeting. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Gaffney, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin. Motion carried.

Minutes

**Public Work
Session
2/23/16**

Mr. Scerbo moved and Mr. Akovity seconded to approve the minutes of the Public Work Session of February 23, 2016. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

**Regular Meeting
2/23/16**

Mr. Scerbo moved and Mr. Akovity seconded to approve the minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting of February 23, 2016. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

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Minutes (continued)

Executive Session Mr. Scerbo moved and Mr. Akovity seconded to approve the minutes
2/23/16 of the Executive Session of April 26, 2016 (Regular Monthly). On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

Buildings & Grounds

Safety Drill Report Mr. Akovity moved and Ms. Cooper seconded to approve the safety drill report for the month of February. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

Dogwood Hill Fire Alarm Upgrades Mr. Akovity moved and Ms. Cooper seconded to approve the submission of a project application for fire alarm upgrades at the Dogwood Hill Elementary School (State Project #3760-040-16-1000) by LAN Associates to the State of New Jersey, Department of Education. The Board will not be seeking an SDA Grant for this project as part of the submission. This project is not in the current Long Ranges Facility Plan and the plan needs to be amended. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

Cafeteria

Cafeteria Report Ms. Shelkin moved and Mr. Scerbo seconded to approve the cafeteria report for the month of February 2016. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

Bills List

Ms. Shelkin moved and Mr. Scerbo seconded to approve the payment of the attached list of bills for March 2016 when in proper legal form and subject to audit, provided funds are available in their respective accounts. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

Personnel

Substitutes

Ms. Shelkin moved and Mr. Scerbo seconded to approve the appointment of the following daily substitute personnel, including teachers, nurses, teacher aides, playground/cafeeteria aides, secretaries, vehicle drivers, technology aides and custodians for the 2015/2016 school year, subject to New Jersey Department of Education Criminal History Review (NJSA 18A:6-7.2) and Chemical Screening, if newly employed by the District, as per the attached lists. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

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Personnel (continued)

- Conferences/
Workshops** Ms. Shelkin moved and Mr. Scerbo seconded to approve staff participation in professional conferences/workshops outside the District, as per the attached. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.
- Leaves Without
Pay** Ms. Shelkin moved and Mr. Scerbo seconded to approve the requests for leave without pay, as per the attached. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.
- VMS Track &
Field Officials** Ms. Shelkin moved and Mr. Scerbo seconded to approve the appointment of the following as Valley Middle School Interscholastic Track and Field Officials for the 015/2016 Season, at the Board approved \$42 per game, upon submission of an approved voucher:
Lauren Binder Stacy Kasper Liz Connolly
Gael Strohmeyer Lauren Butterworth Jessica Semeraro
Tracey Scala Ryan Gilligan Ally Englishman
On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.
- L. Baumgarten** Ms. Shelkin moved and Mr. Scerbo seconded to approve the request of Ms. Lauren Baumgarten, Teacher at Heights Elementary School, for the use of the NJ Family Medical Leave Act beginning September 1, 2016 to November 25, 2016. (This is an unpaid leave with benefits.) On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.
- L. Baumgarten** Ms. Shelkin moved and Mr. Scerbo seconded to approve the request of Ms. Lauren Baumgarten, Teacher at Heights Elementary School, for Board Policy Leave starting on November 28, 2016 until the end of the 2016-2017 school year. (This is an unpaid leave without benefits.) On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.
- Heather Nebesni** Ms. Shelkin moved and Mr. Scerbo seconded to approve the request of Ms. Heather Nebesni, Teacher at Manito Elementary School, for the use of the FMLA beginning on or about June 13, 2016 until the end of the 2015-2016 school year. (This is a paid leave with benefits.) On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

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Personnel (continued)

Heather Nebesni Ms. Shelkin moved and Mr. Scerbo seconded to Approve the request of Ms. Heather Nebesni, Teacher at Manito Elementary School, for the use of NJ Family Medical Leave Act beginning on September 1, 2016 through November 23, 2016. (This is an unpaid leave with benefits.) On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

A. Gilmore Ms. Shelkin moved and Mr. Scerbo seconded to approve Ms. Anne Marie Gilmore for one additional hour per day as a bus aide at \$14.00 per hour effective February 17, 2016 through the end of the 2015-2016 school year. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

Fall 2016 Student Teaching Ms. Shelkin moved and Mr. Scerbo seconded to approve the Fall 2016 Student Teaching/Field Experience assignments, as per the attached sheet. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

Revised Mentors Ms. Shelkin moved and Mr. Scerbo seconded to approve the *Revised* appointment of mentors for novice teaching staff for the 2015/2016 school year, as per the attached. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

Regular Education

HIB Report Mr. Akovity moved and Ms. Cooper seconded to approve the HIB Report for the period of February 24, 2016 through March 22, 2016 as follows:

Number of HIB Investigations - 0

Number of Affirmed HIB Incidents - 2

On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

Field Trips Mr. Akovity moved and Ms. Cooper seconded to approve the field trips for students in the Oakland School District for the 2015/2016 school year, as per the attached. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

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Regular Education (continued)

Comprehensive Equity Plan Mr. Akovity moved and Ms. Cooper seconded to approve the Comprehensive Equity Plan for 2016-2017, 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 school years and its submission to the County Superintendent of Schools. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

VMS Track Schedule Mr. Akovity moved and Ms. Cooper seconded to approve the 2015/2016 Valley Middle School Interscholastic Track Schedule, as per the attached. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

End of Year Calendar Mr. Akovity moved and Ms. Cooper seconded to approve the changes to the 2015/2016 end of year school calendar as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Friday, May 27, 2016 | All Schools Closed |
| Thursday, June 16, 2016 | Minimum Day All Schools |
| Friday, June 17, 2016 | Minimum Day All Schools |
| | Last Day for Students and Staff |
| | VMS Graduation–5:30–Indian Hills High School Auditorium |

(This calendar is contingent upon no emergency school closings for the remainder of year.)
On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

Special Education

Bergen County Special Services Ms. Cooper moved and Mr. Akovity seconded to approve a contract for one student with Bergen County Special Services for a Functional Behavior Assessment at a cost not to exceed \$790. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

American Tutor Ms. Cooper moved and Mr. Akovity seconded to approve a contract with American Tutor to provide educational instruction to one student, currently a patient at Immediate Care Children’s Psychiatric Center Parsippany, for two hours per day, five days per week at a cost of \$58 per hour. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

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Special Education (continued)

**Bergen County
Special Services** Ms. Cooper moved and Mr. Akovity seconded to approve a contract with Bergen County Special Services for continued support from Educational Enterprises Division for one student for the remainder of the school year at a rate not to exceed \$2,480. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

Finance

Payroll Mr. Scerbo moved and Ms. Shelkin seconded to approve the February 2016 certified gross (net & agency) payroll in the amount of \$1,735,511.86. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

**Board Secretary
Certification** Mr. Scerbo moved and Ms. Shelkin seconded to approve the Board Secretary's certification to the Oakland Board of Education that, as of March 22, 2016 no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which, in total, exceed the line item appropriation in violation of NJAC 6A:23A-16.10(c)3; and further,

Approve the Oakland Board of Education's certification that, after a review of the Board Secretary's and Board Treasurer's monthly financial reports and the advice of District officials, there is no reason to doubt that any major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of NJAC 6A:23A-16.10(c)4. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

List of Bills Mr. Scerbo moved and Ms. Shelkin seconded to approve the payment of the list of bills with the run date of March 22, 2016, which in proper legal form and subject to audit, provided funds are available in their respective accounts. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

Budget Transfers Mr. Scerbo moved and Ms. Shelkin seconded to approve the school year 2015/2016 Budget appropriation transfers for the month of January 2016. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

Board Secretary's Mr. Scerbo moved and Ms. Shelkin seconded to approve the Board Secretary's Financial Report for the month of January 2016. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

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Finance (continued)

**Treasurer of
School Monies**

Mr. Scerbo moved and Ms. Shelkin seconded to approve the Treasurer of School Monies Report for the month of January 2016. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

Voided Check

Mr. Scerbo moved and Ms. Shelkin seconded to Approve the voiding of check #019785 in the amount of \$5.00. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

Travel Expenses

Mr. Scerbo moved and Ms. Shelkin seconded to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Oakland School District Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses/conference expenditures related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq. requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves all travel not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq. as being necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.2(b), to a maximum expenditure of \$81,595 for all staff and Board members.

On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

**Transportation
Parent Contract**

Ms. Shelkin moved and Mr. Scerbo seconded to approve the revised parent contract for transportation to The Forum School, Waldwick, NJ, in the amount of \$380.48. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

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Policy

Nepotism

Ms. Cooper moved and Mr. Akovity seconded to approve for final reading, the revised Policy # 4112.8/4212.8, Nepotism. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

Medical

Marijuana

Ms. Cooper moved and Mr. Akovity seconded to approve for final reading, the new Policy 5141.22, Medical Marijuana. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

Exhibit

Ms. Cooper moved and Mr. Akovity seconded to approve the Exhibit to accompany Policy 5141.22, Medical Marijuana. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

Use of School

Ms. Cooper moved and Mr. Akovity seconded to approve for first reading, the revised Policy #1330, Use of School Facilities. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin, Mr. Gaffney. Motion carried.

Audience

Participation

Mr. Scerbo moved and Ms. Shelkin seconded to open meeting to public participation. On a voice vote: ALL AYES.

Ms. D'Arrigo – appreciates time given to her and her concerns.

Mr. Gaffney moved and Ms. Cooper seconded to close meeting to public participation. On a voice vote: ALL AYES.

Executive Session

Mr. Gaffney moved and Ms. Cooper seconded to enter Executive Session. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Gaffney, Mr. Scerbo, Ms. Shelkin. Motion carried.

Executive Session was entered at 8:15 PM

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**Return to Open
Session**

Mr. Gaffney moved and Ms. Cooper seconded to return to open Session. On a voice vote: ALL AYES.

Open Session was returned to at 9:00 PM

Adjournment

Mr. Scerbo moved and Mr. Gaffney seconded to adjourn meeting. On a voice vote: ALL AYES.

Meeting was Adjourned at 9:01 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Rachel DeCarlo
Business Administrator/
Board Secretary