

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
OAKLAND, NEW JERSEY**

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- Meeting** A Special Board Meeting of the Board of Education was held at the Administration Office on the above date. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mr. Scerbo.
- Meeting Notice** Mr. Scerbo 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 November 16, 2012 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.
- Roll Call** The following members were present: Mr. Akovity, Mr. Gaffney, Mr. Scerbo, Mr. Talamini. Also present was Dr. Richard G. Heflich, Superintendent of Schools, and no members of the public. ABSENT: Ms. Matts. In the absence of Ms. Dunn, Dr. Heflich assumed the duties of Board Secretary assisted by Mr. Akovity.

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**Executive Session
Part I**

WHEREAS, The Board of Education must discuss subjects concerning Chief School Administrator search and conduct interviews of interim Superintendent candidates, and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid subjects are not appropriate subjects to be discussed in a public meeting; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid subjects to be discussed are within the exemptions which are permitted to be discussed and acted upon in closed executive session pursuant to P.L. 1975, Chapter 231, it is therefore

RESOLVED, that the aforesaid subjects shall be discussed in a closed executive session by this Board and the administrative staff at the conclusion of the public segment of this meeting and information pertaining thereto will be made available to the public as soon thereafter as possible and once the reasons for nondisclosure no longer exist.

Mr. Gaffney moved and Mr. Talamini seconded to enter Executive Session (Part I). On a roll call vote: ALL AYES. ABSENT: Ms. Matts.

Executive Session was entered at 6:03 PM

Return to Open Session

Mr. Gaffney moved and Mr. Talalmini seconded to return to Open Session. On a roll call vote: ALL AYES. ABSEN: Ms. Matts.

Open Session was returned to at 6:30 PM

**Regular Education
Barbara Suber**

Mr. Akovity moved and Mr. Gaffney seconded to approve the appointment of Ms. Barbara Suber as Payroll-Benefits Specialist/Confidential Secretary to the School Business Administrator in the Oakland School District, effective on or about December 7, 2012, at a prorated annual salary of \$53,000. This appointment is contingent upon New Jersey Criminal Background Review, chemical screening, CPR/AED certification, and successful completion of a 90 day probationary period. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Mr. Gaffney, Mr. Talamini, Mr. Scerbo. Motion carried. ABSENT: Ms. Matts.

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Regular Education (continued)

John LaCugna Mr. Akovity moved and Mr. Gaffney seconded to approve the appointment of Mr. John LaCugna, Long Term Substitute Physical Education/Health Teacher, in the Oakland School District, at a per diem salary of \$245.41, effective on or about January 1, 2013 through the last day of school in June, 2013. This appointment is contingent upon New Jersey Criminal Background Review, chemical screening, and CPR/AED certification. This appointment does not include health benefits. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Mr. Gaffney, Mr. Talamini, Mr. Scerbo. Motion carried. ABSENT: Ms. Matts.

Patricia Gannon Mr. Akovity moved and Mr. Gaffney seconded to approve the appointment of Ms. Patricia A. Gannon as Secretary (12 month) at Heights School at a prorated annual salary of \$49,063. (Step 00/12 Month Secretary Column), effective on or about December 1, 2012. This appointment is contingent upon satisfactory completion of employment requirements. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Mr. Gaffney, Mr. Talamini, Mr. Scerbo. Motion carried. ABSENT: Ms. Matts.

Tracey Sourial Mr. Akovity moved and Mr. Gaffney seconded to approve the request of Ms. Tracey Sourial, Dogwood Hill School Teacher, for an extension to her NJ Family Leave (as approved in the October 16, 2012 Agenda) through on or about February 11, 2013. This leave does not include salary, but it includes a continuation of health benefits. (Ms. Sourial was originally approved to return on or about December 3, 2012.) On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Mr. Gaffney, Mr. Talamini, Mr. Scerbo. Motion carried. ABSENT: Ms. Matts.

Tia Venezia Mr. Akovity moved and Mr. Gaffney seconded to approve the continuation of service of Ms. Tia Venezia as a Long Term Substitute Elementary Teacher at Dogwood Hill School, through on or about February 11, 2013, at a per diem salary of \$245.41. Ms. Venezia was initially approved for this assignment in the October 16, 2012 Agenda. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Mr. Gaffney, Mr. Talamini, Mr. Scerbo. Motion carried. ABSENT: Ms. Matts.

**Conference/
Workshops** Mr. Akovity moved and Mr. Gaffney seconded to approve staff participation in professional conferences/workshops outside the District, as per the attached. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Mr. Gaffney, Mr. Talamini, Mr. Scerbo. Motion carried. ABSENT: Ms. Matts.

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Regular Education (continued)

- Substitutes** Mr. Akovity moved and Mr. Gaffney seconded to approve the appointment of the following daily substitute personnel, including teachers, nurses, teacher aides, playground/cafeteria aides, secretaries, vehicle drivers, technology aides and custodians for the 2012/2013 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, Mr. Gaffney, Mr. Talamini, Mr. Scerbo. Motion carried. ABSENT: Ms. Matts.
- Ruth Kokkinakis** Mr. Akovity moved and Mr. Gaffney seconded to approve the request for a leave of absence without pay for Ms. Ruth Kokkinakis, teacher at Valley Middle School, for November 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, and November 19 through December 7, 2012. Ms. Kokkinakis will return to her employment position on December 10, 2012. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Mr. Gaffney, Mr. Talamini, Mr. Scerbo. Motion carried. ABSENT: Ms. Matts.
- Dyana Brown** Mr. Akovity moved and Mr. Gaffney seconded to approve the appointment of Ms Dyana L. Brown as a Long Term Substitute Elementary School Teacher at Heights School at a per diem salary of \$245.41, effective on or about January 4, 2013 through on or about June 1, 2013. This appointment is contingent upon New Jersey Criminal Background Review, chemical screening, and CPR/AED certification. This appointment does not include health benefits. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Mr. Gaffney, Mr. Talamini, Mr. Scerbo. Motion carried. ABSENT: Ms. Matts.
- Payroll-Benefits Specialist** Mr. Akovity moved and Mr. Gaffney seconded to approve the attached Job Description for the position of *Payroll-Benefits Specialist/Confidential Secretary to the School Business Administrator* in the Oakland School District. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Mr. Gaffney, Mr. Talamini, Mr. Scerbo. Motion carried. ABSENT: Ms. Matts.
- Linda Latushko** Mr. Akovity moved and Mr. Gaffney seconded to approve the appointment of Ms. Linda C. Latushko as a Long Term Substitute Elementary School Teacher at Heights School at a per diem salary of \$245.41, effective on or about January 22, 2013 through on or about June 15, 2013. No health benefits accompany this appointment. This appointment is contingent upon satisfactory completion of all employment requirements. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Mr. Gaffney, Mr. Talamini, Mr. Scerbo. Motion carried. ABSENT: Ms. Matts.

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Regular Education (continued)

Tara Reischel Mr. Akovity moved and Mr. Gaffney seconded to approve the request of Ms. Tara Reischel, teacher at Manito School, for a leave without pay for November 29, 2012. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Akovity, Mr. Gaffney, Mr. Talamini, Mr. Scerbo. Motion carried. ABSENT: Ms. Matts.

Special Education

D. Gostomski Mr. Gaffney moved and Mr. Talamini seconded to approve the request for NJ State Family Leave of Ms. Deborah Gostomski, Heights School Resource Room Teacher, beginning on November 27, 2012 through on or about December 28, 2012. This leave does not include salary, but it includes a continuation of health benefits. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Gaffney, Mr. Akovity, Mr. Talamini, Mr. Scerbo. Motion carried. ABSENT: Ms. Matts.

Patricia McGuire Mr. Gaffney moved and Mr. Talamini seconded to approve the request of Ms. Patricia McGuire, Full-Time Classroom/Student Aide at Manito School, for a leave without pay for December 17 - 21, 2012. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Gaffney, Mr. Akovity, Mr. Talamini, Mr. Scerbo. Motion carried. ABSENT: Ms. Matts.

Linda Cooke Mr. Gaffney moved and Mr. Talamini seconded to Rescind the request for a leave without pay from Ms. Linda Cooke, Full-Time Classroom/Student Aide, for November 7, 2012. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Gaffney, Mr. Akovity, Mr. Talamini, Mr. Scerbo. Motion carried. ABSENT: Ms. Matts.

Anne Holster Mr. Gaffney moved and Mr. Talamini seconded to approve the request of Ms. Anne Holster, Playground/Cafeteria Aide at Heights School, for a leave without pay for November 5, 7, 8 and 9, 2012. Due to Hurricane Sandy, Ms. Holster's leave was extended for two additional days. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Gaffney, Mr. Akovity, Mr. Talamini, Mr. Scerbo. Motion carried. ABSENT: Ms. Matts.

Mallory Griffith Mr. Gaffney moved and Mr. Talamini seconded to approve the appointment of Ms. Mallory Griffith, Resource Center Teacher, as a substitute teacher for one additional period per day (for Ms. Gostomski's class) beginning November 27, 2012 through December 21, 2012, at her prorated hourly salary. On a roll call vote: AYES: Mr. Gaffney, Mr. Akovity, Mr. Talamini, Mr. Scerbo. Motion carried. ABSENT: Ms. Matts.

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Executive Session
Part II

Mr. Gaffney moved and Mr. Akovity seconded to continue the Executive Session (Part II) for same purposes as previously stated.. On a roll call vote: ALL AYES. ABSENT: Ms. Matts.

**Return to Open
Session**

Mr. Talamini moved and Mr. Gaffney seconded to Return to Open Session. On a voice vote: ALL AYES. ABSENT: Ms. Matts

Open Session was returned to at 6:55 PM

**Adjournment of
Public Meeting**

Mr. Akovity moved and Mr. Gaffney seconded to adjourn the meeting. On a voice vote: ALL AYES. ABSENT: Ms. Matts

Meeting was adjourned at 6:56 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Richard G. Heflich
Temporary Board Secretary