

**Garwood Board of Education Regular Public Meeting Minutes  
September 21, 2021**

**I. Flag Salute / Sunshine Statement / Call to Order / Roll Call**

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.), adequate notification of this meeting has been provided by advertising in the Star Ledger and Westfield Leader and posting notice on the front door of Lincoln School and filing notice with the Borough Clerk. I hereby call to order the Regular Public Meeting, Tuesday, September 21, 2021, at 7:00 pm.

<i>Board Member</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Mrs. Barnes (Adrienne)	X	
Mr. DelConte (Albert)	X	
Miss Guerriero (Christine)	X	
Mrs. Ridente (Denise)	X	
Ms. Roland (Tracey)	X	
Mr. Ryan (Timothy)	X	
Mrs. Scepkowski (Maureen)	X	
Mr. Trentacosta (Ralph)	X	
Vacancy		

**Administration:**

Dr. Teresa Quigley, Chief School Administrator  
 Dr. Dennis R. Frohnafel, Interim SBA/Board Secretary  
 John G. Geppert, Jr., Esq., Board Attorney

**II. Executive Session**

**Be It Resolved**, that the Garwood Board of Education determines it is necessary to meet in Executive Session on Tuesday, September 21, 2021, to discuss **Legal, Personnel and Student** matters; and

**Be It Further Resolved**, that these matters will be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

*Trustee Guerriero motioned to convene Executive Session at 7:04 pm; seconded by Trustee Ryan carried by unanimous vote.*

*Trustee Scepkowski motioned to adjourn Executive Ssession and reconvene the regular meeting at 7:30 pm; seconded by Trustee Guerriero; carried by unanimous vote*

**III. Approval of Minutes**

**Be It Resolved**, that the Garwood Board of Education approves the minutes of the Regular Meeting and Executive Session held on August 17, 2021, as submitted.

*Trustee Scepkowski motioned to approve the minutes as submitted; seconded by Trustee Ryan; carried by unanimous roll cal lvote; Trustee DelConte abstained.*

**IV. Garwood BOE Remembers . . .**

*Please stand as we remember 2 members of the Lincoln school community . . .*

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*First for a father of 3 students, 2 daughters here in Lincoln School and another in High School. We pray for his family to find peace in their loss.*

*And of course, for our very own, Dr. Mary Ann Kjettsa who left us earlier this month. Dr. Kjettsa, as you know, was a current member of this board and has served this board for many years. Dr. Kjettsa brought passion, numerous ideas and a smile to every one of our meetings. She has served not only this board but this community with the same enthusiasm. She was an instrumental voice to multiple school board committees during her time and because of that she made a lasting impact. On a personal note, while I have only known Mary Ann for 3 years, I quickly saw her desire to do good. Good for the school, good for the community and good for everyone around her.*

*We will miss Mary Ann but we are grateful for having the opportunity to serve alongside her. May she Rest In Peace! Please join me now, in a moment of silence.*

*Christine Guerriero spoke of her friend, Dr. Kjetsaa and their 30 year friendship which began when they met as members of the Garwood BOE. Dr. Kjesaa worked hard in person and behind the scenes for the betterment of the district. She always encouraged people to do their best and to work toward their potential. What she did was not for her own accolades, but for the people of Garwood, to make Garwood a better place and a better district; it was always for the students, staff and administration.*

**V. Gifted & Talented Presentation**

**VI. ABR Report (Dr. Quigley and Mrs. Emmons)**

**VII. Committee Reports**

- A. Budget/Finance/Facilities
- B. Education/Personnel
- C. Strategic Planning/Policy
- D. Website Committee

**VIII. Liaison Reports**

<b>A</b>	Clark Board of Education	Christine Guerriero reported
<b>B</b>	Garwood Educational Foundation	Maureen Scepkowski reported
<b>C</b>	Garwood PTA	Andrienne Barnes reported
<b>D</b>	Garwood Borough Council Representative	Albert DelConte reported
<b>E</b>	Union County Ed Services Commission	Maureen Scepkowski reported
<b>F</b>	Union County School Boards Association	Timothy Ryan reported
<b>G</b>	Union County Vo-Tech	Timothy Ryan reported
<b>H</b>	Garwood Seniors Association	Christine Guerriero reported
<b>I</b>	New Jersey School Boards Association	Christine Guerriero reported

**IX. Superintendent's Report**

- *introduced the new teaching staff members*

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- *thanked Mrs. Benc and Mrs. DelConte for teaching the gifted and talented class and for the showcase*
- *Thanked the whole staff and reminded the public that many staff members had flooded basement due to the storm*
- *Thanked the PTA for breakfast the book fair*
- *Virtual Back to School Night went well*
  
- *Dr Kjetssa will be missed as she was an excellent BOE member*

**X. Public Comment** (Bylaw 9322)

**XI. Resolutions**

- A. Budget/Finance/Facilities
- B. Education/Personnel
- C. Strategic Planning/Policy

**XII. Board Comments**

**XIII. Adjournment**

*Trustee Guerriero motioned to adjourn at 9:25 pm; seconded by Trustee Barnes; carried by unanimous vote.*

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis R. Frohnapfel, Ed.D.  
Interim SBA/Board Secretary

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**A. Finance/Budget/Facilities**

- A1 Be It Further Resolved**, that the Board of Education and Board Secretary certify that no budgetary line item account has been over-expended and that there are sufficient funds available to meet District financial obligations for the 2021/22 school year.
- A2 Be It Resolved**, that the Garwood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Interim SBA/Board Secretary, approve the payment of bills and claims:

June 30, 2021	<b>\$189,351.23</b>
August 13 thru Sept 16, 2021	<b>\$1,032,127.14</b>

- A3 Be It Resolved**, that the Garwood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator and Interim SBA/Board Secretary, approves budget transfers #8620 thru #8643, total transfers \$275,981.00.
- A4 Be It Resolved**, that the Garwood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve the Use of School Facilities:

PTA, use of cafeteria and playground, Sept 7, 2021 for Teacher Breakfast, 6:45 am to 10:00 am; Sept 8, 2021 for Kindergarten Orientation, 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm; Sept 22, 2021 for Book Fair set-up, from 3:15 pm to 4:00 pm; Sept 23, 2021 for Book Fair, from 12:45 pm to 2:00 pm and 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm; Sept 28, 2021 for PTA meeting n cafeteria, from 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm.

Eighth Grade Parents, use of front of school and playground, Sept 9, 2021, from 12:45 pm to 1:15 pm, for Pretzel Sale.

Budget/Finance/Facilities resolutions A1 thru A4				
<i>Motion:</i> Trustee Scepkowski	<i>Second:</i> Trustee Ryan			
	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Mrs. Barnes (Adrienne)	X			
Mr. DelConte (Albert)	X			
Miss Guerriero (Christine)	X			
Mrs. Ridente (Denise)	X			
Ms. Roland (Tracey)	X			
Mr. Ryan (Timothy)	X			
Mrs. Scepkowski (Maureen)	X			
Mr. Trentacosta (Ralph)	X			
Vacancy				

**B. Education/Personnel**

**Education**

- B1 Be It Resolved**, that the Garwood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve the following 2021/22 out-of-district placements:

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<i>Student ID#</i>	<i>Placement</i>	<i>Tuition</i>	<i>Effective Date(s)</i>
6261388054	Summit BOE	\$41,770 + \$1,798 ESY	Sept 2021/June 2022

**B2 Be It Resolved**, that the Garwood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve the following October 2021 **field trips**:

1. Van Thun Farms (Kindergarten)

**B3 Be It Resolved**, that the Garwood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve approve the submission of the ARP IDEA application and subsequent receipt of 2021/22 ARP IDEA funds:

ARP IDEA (Basic)	-	\$16,278
ARP IDEA Preschool	-	\$1,388

**Personnel**

**B4 Be It Resolved**, that the Garwood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, accept the **resignation** of Amanda Cohen, Special Education Teacher, effective August 31, 2021.

**B5 Be It Resolved**, that the Garwood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve the **mentors** for the 2021/22 school year, in accordance with GEA negotiated contract (\$550 each):

1. Matthew Burke (Lia DiPiazza)
2. Diane Leshowitz (Nicole Dencker)

**B6 Be It Resolved**, that the Garwood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve the employment of the following **certificated staff**, for the 2021/22 school year, effective September 1, 2021 thru June 30, 3022:

1. **Michelle Coyle**, School Social Worker, salary \$59,637 (MA/Step 5); Local funding \$45,137, acct #11-000-219-104-000; ESSER II funding \$14,500, acct #20-484-100-100-000
2. **Nicole Dencker**, Special Education Teacher, \$51,237 (BA/Step 1); Local funding \$29,957, acct #11-213-100-101-000; Title I funding \$25,280, acct #20-231-100-101-000
3. **Lia DiPiazza**, Physical Education Teacher (0.6 FTE), salary \$30,742 (BA/Step 1)

**B7 Be It Resolved**, that the Garwood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve the employment of the following **substitutes** (Teachers, Paraprofessionals, Nurse, Secretary), for the 2021/22 school year, effective September 1, 2021 thru June 30, 2022, at the approved daily rate):

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1. Carrie Bree
2. Denise Coates
3. Jennifer Polizzi
4. Vanessa Schubring

- B8 Be It Resolved**, that the Garwood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve the employment of Marci Krasny, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, for the 2021/22 school year, October 1, 2021 thru June 30, 2022, Employment Contract approved by the Executive County Superintendent, September 15, 2021
- B9 Be It Resolved**, that the Garwood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve the employment of Dr. Dennis R. Frohnepfel, Fiscal Analyst, at \$80.00 per hour, as needed, effective October 1, 2021, total cost not to exceed \$3,500.
- B10 Be It Resolved**, that the Garwood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve the reassignment of Gina D’Archi, from P/T paraprofessional to F/T paraprofessional with benefits, salary \$20,111, prorated, effective October 1, 2021 thru June 30, 2022.

Education/Personnel B1 thru B10				
<i>Motion:</i> Trustee Ryan	<i>Second:</i> Trustee Barnes			
	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Mrs. Barnes (Adrienne)	X			
Mr. DelConte (Albert)	X			
Miss Guerriero (Christine)	X			
Mrs. Ridente (Denise)	X			
Ms. Roland (Tracey)	X			
Mr. Ryan (Timothy)	X			
Mrs. Scepkowski (Maureen)	X			
Mr. Trentacosta (Ralph)	X			
Vacancy				

**C. Strategic Planning/Policy**

- C1 Be It Resolved**, that the Garwood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve the *first* reading of the following revised/new policies:

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Policy 5141.10 | Face Coverings  |
| Policy 5141.11 | Vaccination and Testing   |
| Policy 6162.4  | Community Resources   |
| Policy 6162.5  | Research  |
| Policy 6163.1  | Media Center/Library  |
| Policy 6164.1  | Intervention and Referral Services for General Education Pupils |

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Policy 6164.2      Guidance Services  
Policy 6164.4      Child Study Team

Strategic Planning/Policy resolutions C1				
<b>Motion:</b> Trustee Ryan		<b>Second:</b> Trustee Barnes		
	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Mrs. Barnes (Adrienne)	X			
Mr. DelConte (Albert)	X			
Miss Guerriero (Christine)	X			
Mrs. Ridente (Denise)	X			
Ms. Roland (Tracey)	X			
Mr. Ryan (Timothy)	X			
Mrs. Scepkowski (Maureen)	X			
Mr. Trentacosta (Ralph)	X			
Vacancy				