

**GARWOOD BOARD OF EDUCATION
GARWOOD, NEW JERSEY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MAY 21, 2019**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Board President Christine Guerriero in the all-purpose room of the Lincoln School.

PLEASE TURN OFF CELL PHONES

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided to the Westfield Leader, the official newspaper of the Garwood Board of Education. The News Tribune, Courier Home News, Westfield Leader, Star Ledger, and Suburban News are approved for use for legal notices. Notice of this meeting was sent to the Borough Clerk, and a copy of this meeting notice is posted on the front door of Lincoln School.

II. ROLL CALL:

<u> </u> P <u> </u> Mr. A. DelConte	<u> </u> P** Ms. L. Koenig	<u> </u> P <u> </u> Mrs. M. Scepkowski
<u> </u> P* <u> </u> Mrs. S. Groning	<u> </u> NP <u> </u> Mr. S. Piarulli	<u> </u> P*** Mrs. T. Simitz
<u> </u> P <u> </u> Miss C. Guerriero	<u> </u> P <u> </u> Mrs. D. Ridente	<u> </u> P <u> </u> Mr. R. Trentacosta

*Mrs. Groning arrived at 7:10 p.m.
**Ms. Koenig arrived at 7:09 p.m.
***Mrs. Simitz arrived at 7:18 p.m.

III. OTHERS PRESENT

 P Dr. Teresa Quigley, Superintendent
 P Mrs. Debra LeBrun, SBA/BS
 P Mr. John Geppert, Board Attorney

IV. FLAG SALUTE

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Be it resolved that the GBOE conducts a closed, executive session concerning the following topic(s) as permitted by the New Jersey Open Public Meeting Act after which time the Board may or may not return to public session to take action:

<u> </u> X <u> </u> personnel matter, staff	<u> </u> <u> </u> safety and protection of property
<u> </u> <u> </u> personal matter, student	<u> </u> <u> </u> contract negotiations
<u> </u> <u> </u> litigation	<u> </u> X <u> </u> other permitted by law

Be it further resolved that at such time as it is legally appropriate for the substance of the closed session to be made public that same will be ordered.

Time of vote to enter closed session: 7:03 p.m.

Time returning to public session: 7:30 p.m.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the April 8, 2019 team building and executive session meetings

Minutes of the April 30, 2019 regular and executive sessions meetings

ROLL CALL:

<u>Y</u> Mr. A. DelConte	<u>Y</u> Ms. L. Koenig	<u>S</u> Mrs. M. Scepkowski
<u>Y</u> Mrs. S. Groning	<u>NP</u> Mr. S. Piarulli	<u>M</u> Mrs. T. Simitz
<u>Y</u> Miss C. Guerriero	<u>Y</u> Mrs. D. Ridente	<u>Y</u> Mr. R. Trentacosta

VII. PRESENTATION – Gwen Thornton – Strategic Planning

Mrs. Scepkowski - Asked if board goals could be broken down? Do other districts put them on their website?

Dr. Kjetsaa – Asked if the goals could be uploaded to website?

Mr. Paterson – Asked about use of notebook; How all the goals fit together; How does someone without children get involved?

Gina Petrozelli – NJ School Performance Report

Mrs. Groning - Asked if the slideshow could be added to BOE Gdrive?

Mrs. Scepkowski - Asked how we compare to other districts, students with disabilities or socio economic disadvantages?

Mrs. Simitz - Asked how Garwood compares to students with disabilities or socio economic disadvantages?

Dr. Kjetsaa – Is the district going to compare students as they grow over time?

Mrs. Siew – What supports are put in place if children struggle as they get into the older grades?

Mr. Paterson – How does this report compare to the report from earlier in the year? What is the issue with absenteeism?

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**Building & Grounds/Finance**

S. Groning, Chairperson
 A. DelConte
 S. Piarulli
 R. Trentacosta

Mrs. Groning reported that the committee met on 5/13. Discussed were the installation of vaping detectors; Summer projects; Substitute custodians for summer and school year; Approval of summer recreation trips; Core samples for gym floor; Team building.

Education/Policy

M. Scepkowski, Chairperson
 C. Guerriero
 D. Ridente
 T. Simitz

Mrs. Scepkowski reported that the committee met on 5/13. Discussed were first reading policies; Team Building; Superintendent evaluation; School Performance Report; Substitute custodians; Strategic Planning presentation; Tenured and non-tenured staff.

IX. LIAISON REPORTS:**Clark Board of Education**

T. Simitz, Delegate

Mrs. Simitz reported that the meeting was held on 5/6. Discussed were the approval of Clark budget at 2%; ALJ Alumni were recognized; Reappointment lists, curriculum writers and summer reading lists were approved; Vestibule overhaul for double door security; National Honor Society inductions were held on 4/25; ALJ seniors celebrated "Decision Day" on 5/1 by wearing sweatshirts and sneakers from their school of choice. Two athletes including Garwood's own Cecelia Puentes participated in a signing day ceremony on 5/3. AP tested started at ALJ on 5/6; ALJ spring concert was held on 5/7; The Wellness Annual School Progress Report was provided; There were a total of 10 HIB cases reported district wide from 9/1-12/31/18; Upcoming May events at ALJ include Art show, Mr. May, Junior/Senior Prom; Science and Music Awards, Senior trip, Senior awards night.

Education Foundation of Garwood

M. Scepkowski, Delegate

Mrs. Scepkowski reported that 140 people attended the Appreciation dinner. Other scholarships were discussed.

Representative to the Borough Council

A. DelConte, Delegate

No report.

Union County Educational Services Commission

L. Koenig, Delegate
Alternates:
C. Guerriero
M. Scepkowski

Ms. Koenig reported that the meeting was held on 5/1. Discussed were retirements; Annual dinner was held a Stone House.

Union County School Boards Association

S. Groning, Delegate
Alternate: M. Scepkowski

Miss Guerriero reported that the meeting was held on 5/8. Mr. Jones, NJSBA Legislative Advocate, gave an update on government relations. In December 2018 NJ courts found the use of PARCC as a graduation requirement invalid. The legislature is considering alternative assessments.

Senate President Sweeney’s working groups “Path to Progress” proposals were discussed. Among the key recommendations were pension reform, health benefits, reorganization and special education.

Board members were recognized.

X. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Quigley thanked Mrs. Thornton and Mrs. Petrozelli for their presentations; Thanked Student Council members for giving up their Saturday morning to give tours of the school; Thanked the PTA for decorating the teacher’s doors; Lincoln School had the most poetry contest winners with a total of 10; The Curriculum Fair was lovely and the 8th grade raffle winners were announced the same night; Breakfast honoring the Teacher of the Year will be held on 5/29; Field Day will be held on 5/24 at Unami Park. There are no HIB cases to report.

Resolved that the Garwood Board of Education accepts the May 2019 Superintendent’s report.
Moved by: M. Scepkowski Seconded by: S. Groning Motion carried: All Ayes

*During the course of the board meeting the Garwood Board of Education offers members of the public an opportunity to address issues regarding the operation of the Garwood Public Schools. The Board reminds those individuals who take this opportunity to identify themselves by name and address and to limit their comments to items listed on the agenda and/or items directly related to the operation of the School District. Issues raised by members of the public may or may not be responded to by the Board. All comments will be considered and a response will be forthcoming if and when appropriate. The Board asks that members of the public be courteous and mindful of the rights of other individuals when speaking. Specifically, comments regarding students and employees of the Board are discouraged and will not be responded to by the Board. Students and employees have specific legal rights afforded by the laws of New Jersey. The Board bears no responsibility nor will it be liable for any comments made by members of the public. Members of the public should consider their comments in light of the legal rights of those affected or identified in their comments and be aware that they are legally responsible and liable for their comments.

XI. HEARING OF CITIZENS

The following is a summary of the Board's understanding of comments made by members of the public. This is not a verbatim transcript.

Dr. Kjetsaa, 350 Hickory Lane – Asked if there were any updates to the boiler project; Suggested using the library to post poetry contest winners.

Mr. Paterson, 225 Willow Ave – Attended the Freeholder's meeting when the poetry contest winners were announced. He was very proud! Asked why there are two board meetings in June; Asked if we pay for transportation.

XII. FINANCE COMMITTEE

1. Move to approve, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator and the SBA/BS, the attached list of budget transfer for the month of April 2019.
2. Move to approve, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator and the SBA/BS, the payment of the bills in the amount of \$334,343.33.
3. WHEREAS, the Garwood Board of Education, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator, and pursuant to N.J.A.C. (6A:23-2.2), has received the Financial Reports of the Board Secretary and the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of April 2019; and

WHEREAS, said reports are in agreement, and it has been certified by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary that no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. (6A:23-2.12), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Garwood Board of Education accepts the Financial Reports for the month of April 2019 as submitted and certified.

4. Move to approve, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator and the SBA/BS, to continue participation in the AmeriHealth/Trust medical and drug prescription program for the period 7/1/19 - 6/30/20 with Brown & Brown Benefit Advisors as the district's health insurance broker.
5. Move to approve, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator and the SBA/BS, the contract with Suplee, Clooney & Company for the 2019-2020 school year audit at a rate of \$20,450.
6. Move to approve, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator and the SBA/BS, the 2019-2020 special education tuition contract with the Union County Education Services Commission. This contract covers any and all students attending one or more schools operated by the Commission.

7. Move to approve, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator and the Special Services Department, the agreement between Trinitas Children’s Therapy Services and the Garwood Public Schools for occupational and/or physical therapy for the 2019-2020 school year including the extended school year.

8. Move to approve, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator and the Special Services Department, the agreement between The Data Group and the Garwood Public Schools for applied behavior analysis (ABA) for the 2019-2020 school year including the extended school year.

9. Move to approve, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator and the SBA/BS, the Union County Vocational-Technical Schools tuition contract at a rate of \$6,000 per student for the 2019-2020 school year.

10. Move to approve, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator and the SBA/BS, the 2019-2020 coordinated transportation services agreement with the Union County Education Services Commission. This contract covers special education transportation and non-public transportation if applicable.

11. Move to approve, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator and the SBA/BS, all checks dated prior to July 1, 2018 be canceled and funds will be reentered as miscellaneous revenue.

12. Move to approve, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator and the SBA/BS, the following schedule of local tax levy payments from the Borough of Garwood for the 2019-2020 school year in accordance with the following schedule:

Garwood Monthly Tax Levy Payments 19-20			
	General	Debt	
Date	Fund	Service	Total
July 11, 2019	691,494.00	423,175.00	1,114,669.00
August 8, 2019	691,494.00		691,494.00
September 12, 2019	691,494.00		691,494.00
October 10, 2019	691,494.00		691,494.00
November 14, 2019	691,494.00		691,494.00

December 12, 2019	691,494.00		691,494.00
January 9, 2020	633,501.00	103,450.00	736,951.00
February 13, 2020	633,501.00		633,501.00
March 13, 2020	633,501.00		633,501.00
April 10, 2020	633,501.00		633,501.00
May 8, 2020	633,501.00		633,501.00
June 12, 2020	633,501.00		633,501.00
TOTALS	7,949,970.00	526,625.00	8,476,595.00

ROLL CALL:

Y Mr. A. DelConte _AB_ Ms. L. Koenig _Y_ Mrs. M. Scepkowski
 M Mrs. S. Groning _NP_ Mr. S. Piarulli _S_ Mrs. T. Simitz
 N Miss C. Guerriero _Y_ Mrs. D. Ridente _Y_ Mr. R. Trentacosta

XIII. BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE

1. Move to approve, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator and the SBA/BS, the use of the Garwood school bus and driver by the Garwood Recreation Department on the following dates at a total fee of \$750 for the summer field trips:

7/10 – AMC Theatre, Mountainside
 7/16 – Turtle Back Zoo, West Orange
 7/18 – Pump it Up, Roselle Park
 7/22 – Skating, Woodbridge Community Center
 7/24 – AMC Theatre, Mountainside

ROLL CALL:

Y Mr. A. DelConte Y Ms. L. Koenig S Mrs. M. Scepkowski
M Mrs. S. Groning NP Mr. S. Piarulli Y Mrs. T. Simitz
Y Miss C. Guerriero Y Mrs. D. Ridente Y Mr. R. Trentacosta

XIV. EDUCATION COMMITTEE

1. Move to approve, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the submission of the application for and subsequent receipt of the 2018-2019 Special Education Extraordinary Aid.
2. Move to approve, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator and the Special Services Department, the following summer 2019 out-of-district placements:

<u>Student</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>	<u>Transportation Required</u>	<u>Cost Includes Trans.</u>
5813376195	\$7,300.00	Yes	No
Aide	\$2,500.00		
5693087093	\$7,300.00	Yes	No
7329035642	\$7,000.00	Yes	No
9972409490	\$8,000.00	Yes	No
5430379860	\$7,100.00	Yes	No

ROLL CALL:

Y Mr. A. DelConte Y Ms. L. Koenig Y Mrs. M. Scepkowski
Y Mrs. S. Groning NP Mr. S. Piarulli S Mrs. T. Simitz
Y Miss C. Guerriero S Mrs. D. Ridente M Mr. R. Trentacosta

XV. POLICY COMMITTEE

1. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the first reading of the following:

Policy 3541.1	Transportation Routes and Services
Policy 3541.3	Nonschool Use of District Vehicles
Policy 3541.31	Privately-Owned Vehicles
Policy 3541.32	District Owned Vehicles
Policy 3541.33	Transportation Safety
Policy 3542	Food Service
Policy 3542.1	Local Wellness/Nutrition
Policy 5141.6	Suicide and Self-Destructive Behavior

2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the second reading of the following:

Policy 3451	Petty Cash Fund
Policy 3453	School Activity Funds
Policy 3510	Operation and Maintenance of Plant
Policy 3510.1	Integrated Pest Management
Policy 3514	Authorized Use of School-Owned Equipment
Policy 3515	Smoking Prohibition
Policy 3516	Safety

ROLL CALL:

<u>Y</u> Mr. A. DelConte	<u>Y</u> Ms. L. Koenig	<u>M</u> Mrs. M. Scepkowski
<u>S</u> Mrs. S. Groning	<u>NP</u> Mr. S. Piarulli	<u>Y</u> Mrs. T. Simitz
<u>Y</u> Miss C. Guerriero	<u>Y</u> Mrs. D. Ridente	<u>Y</u> Mr. R. Trentacosta

XVI. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

1. Move to approve, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the findings and decisions presented at the March 19, 2019 board meeting regarding bullying incident H-6.
2. Move to approve, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the appointment of the attached non-tenured certificated staff for the 2019-2020 school year.
3. Move to approve, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, in cooperation with the Lincoln School Principal the appointment of the following as substitute personnel for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year pending a satisfactory criminal history background check and mantoux results:

- A. Caitlyn Moran – Teacher (\$90/day)
- B. Kyle Pender – Paraprofessional (\$11/hour)
- C. Maria Gutierrez – Custodian (\$15/hour)

4. Move to approve, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, Mrs. Emmons to accompany the 2018-2019 8th grade class on their overnight class trip to Gettysburg, Penn. with no additional compensation.

ROLL CALL:

<u>Y</u> Mr. A. DelConte	<u>Y</u> Ms. L. Koenig	<u>S</u> Mrs. M. Scepkowski
<u>Y</u> Mrs. S. Groning	<u>NP</u> Mr. S. Piarulli	<u>Y</u> Mrs. T. Simitz
<u>Y</u> Miss C. Guerriero	<u>Y</u> Mrs. D. Ridente	<u>M</u> Mr. R. Trentacosta

XVII. OLD BUSINESS

6/5 at 7:00 pm. – Education Committee Meeting

6/10 at 6:30 p.m. – B&G/Finance Committee Meeting

XVIII. NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Koenig discussed blue collar workers and their importance in society.

XIX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made at 8:48 p.m.

Moved by: M. Scepkowski
Seconded by: S. Groning
Motion carried: All Ayes

Legend: P = Present
 M = Moved motion
 S = Seconded motion
 Y = Yes Vote
 N = No Vote
 AB = Abstain

Respectfully submitted,

Debra LeBrun, SBA/BS