

Regular Public Meeting - April 18, 2024

LITTLE FERRY BOARD OF EDUCATION, 130 Liberty Street, Little Ferry, NJ 07643

Regular Public Meeting
April 18, 2024

A G E N D A

I. Flag Salute

II. Sunshine Statement/Call to Order

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 Record and posting notice of this meeting in Borough Hall and the Superintendent’s Office. I hereby call to order the Public Meeting of the Little Ferry Board of Education, Thursday, April 18, 2024, at _____pm.

III. Roll Call

<i>Board Member</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Mrs. Brattoli (Michele)		
Mrs. Patel (Purna)		
Mr. Fytros (Nicholas)		
Mrs. Gottlieb (Leslie)		
Mr. Mele (Frank)		
Ms. Villasuso (Lourdes)		
Mr. Vorisek (Raymond)		
Mr. Bonelli (Brian) <i>Vice President</i>		
Mrs. Bradley (Victoria) <i>President</i>		
Vatsal Upadhyay - Student Representative		

Attendance:

Mr. Matthew Perrapato, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. John A. Gomez, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

IV. Approval of Minutes

Be It Resolved that the Little Ferry Board of Education approves the minutes of the Regular Public meeting held on March 18, 2024.

<i>Motion:</i>	<i>Second:</i>			
<i>Member</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Abstain</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Mrs. Brattoli (Michelle)				
Mrs. Patel (Purna)				
Mr. Fytros (Nicholas)				
Mrs. Gottlieb (Leslie)				
Mr. Mele (Frank)				
Ms. Villasuso (Lourdes)				
Mr. Vorisek (Raymond)				
Mr. Bonelli (Brian) <i>Vice</i>				

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<i>President</i>				
<i>Mrs. Bradley (Victoria) President</i>				

V. Superintendent's Report – Mr. Perrapato to give an update.

Students of the Month March 2024

5th Grade - Nicholas Hampel

6th Grade - Nikhil Yallabandi

7th Grade - Farrah Poitevien

8th Grade - Siena Seneres

HIB Report 0 Washington 1 Memorial - Founded

Board Secretary's Report - Mr. Gomez to give an update on Preliminary Budget

VI. Committee Reports

- A. Personnel - Mrs. Brattoli to provide an update
- B. Education – Mrs. Villasuso provide update
- C. Finance - Mr. Bonelli to provide update
- D. Policy – Mr. Mele to provide update
- E. Transportation - Mrs. Patel. to provide update
- F. Expansion - Mrs. Bradley to provide update

VII. Communications

- A. Borough Liaison Report – Mr. Vorisek to provide update
- B. Ridgefield Park Liaison Report – Mr. Fytros to provide update
- C. NJSBA Delegate Report – Mrs. Brattoli to provide update

VIII. Public Comment (Agenda ONLY)

Each member of the public will have 5 minutes to speak during the comment period. Time cannot be transferred to other individuals. The public comment period will be one hour for agenda items. Thank you for your cooperation and support.

IX. Business Agenda – Resolution Items

Resolutions:

A. Finance

F12 **Be It Resolved** that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the certification of funds, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11, that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations of the 2023/2024 school year; and

Be It Further Resolved that the Board of Education approves the payroll and the

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payment of bills and claims (Attachment #F1) as follows:

Bills and Claims #F1	\$2,218,369.08
Payroll 3-28-24	\$512,301.17
Payroll 4-15-24	\$502,839.61
Total	\$3,233,509.86

F13 Be It Resolved that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following financial reports (*Unaudited*):

March 1, 2024 – March 31, 2024 - A148 Board Secretary’s Report and A149 Treasurer’s Report for 2023-2024 school year.

F14 Be It Resolved that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the Budget Transfers for March 2024 (**#F2**).

F15 Be It Resolved that the Little Ferry Board of Education, approves the withdrawal of \$165,295 from the Maintenance Reserve for the purchase and installation of electronic door locks. Any funds remaining at completion will be returned to the Maintenance Reserve which has a current balance of \$517,094.

F16 Be It Resolved that the Little Ferry Board of Education, approves the return to the Capital Reserve \$703,100 from the Washington School Demolition. Demolition was reclassified to the ESSER III grant. The Capital Reserve will have a balance of \$1,023,899.84 after.

F17 Be It Resolved that the Little Ferry Board of Education, approves the withdrawal of \$2,500,000 from the Capital Reserve for architectural and pre-development costs associated with the new school approved referendum. Funds will be returned to the Capital Reserve when bond proceeds are available, the Capital Reserve has a current balance of \$2,820,863.

Withdrawals for Pre-Development or Other Pre-Application Costs Funded by Bond Proceeds (N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-14.1 section h.1

B. District Operations

DO42 Be It Resolved that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following attendance of the listed district employees, to the 2024 NJASBO (New Jersey Schools association of School Business Officials) 62ND Annual Conference June 5, 2024 to June 7, 2024 costs of attendance including all registration fees and statutorily authorized travel expenditures.

Attendee	Registration	Meals & Incidentals	Mileage	Tolls & Parking	Hotel	Total
John Gomez	\$500.00	\$147.50	\$120.88	\$41.24	\$238.00	\$1,047.62
Kaitlyn O’Shea	\$500.00	\$147.50	\$120.88	\$41.24	\$238.00	\$1,047.62

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					Grand Total	\$2,095.24
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DO43 Be It Resolved that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools approves the following vendor, Tribeca Beverage Company,LLC., 23 Carol Street, Clifton, NJ 07014

Description: Water dispensers

DO44 Be It Resolved that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools approves the send/receive tuition adjustment with the Ridgefield Park Board of Education for the 2021/2022 school year in the amount of \$407,291 as verified by the district auditor. District awaiting payment for 2020/2021 adjustment due from Ridgefield Park in the amount of \$197,444.

DO45 Be It Resolved, that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the Professional Services Agreement for Mental Health Services for students & families, with Thrive Alliance, LLC, Commencing July 1, 2024 through July 31, 2024 Summer Program Total Cost not to exceed \$6,300 and from September 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, for 2 F/T Therapeutic Counselors Total Cost not to exceed \$255,700.

DO45 Be It Resolved that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the 2024-2025 12-month Employee Calendar as attached.

DO46 Be It Resolved that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the 2024-2025 10-month School Calendar as attached.

DO47 Be It Resolved that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the revised 2023-2024 10-month School Calendar as attached.

DO48 Be It Resolved that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following vendor, Stagedrop, LLC, 706 Challenger Way, Forked River, NJ 08731

Description: Stage for performances

DO49 Be It Resolved that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following vendor, Pleder M. Fedora, dba Dyslexia Institute for Literacy and Learning, 24 Colony Drive East, West Orange, NJ 07052

Description: Professional Development

DO50 Be It Resolved that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following vendor,Ventris learning LLC, 123 Dewey Street / PO Box 98, Sun Prairie, WI 53590

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Description: Professional Development Materials

DO51 Be It Resolved that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the award of a professional services contract for Architectural Services to RSC Architects P.C. in accordance with the fees published in their proposal received April 8th 2024 beginning April 18, 2024 and concluding April 18, 2025 with a further 2 renewals as per statute allowed; and, In accordance with 18A:18A-2 governing Professional Services, these services are authorized by law, regulated by law requires knowledge of an advanced type in a field of learning acquired by a prolonged formal course of specialized instruction and study.

DO52 Be It Resolved, that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following vendor, Carahsoft Technology Corp, NJSBA contract E-880-ACESPCS approved for the following services: Replacement of interior door locksmith electronic remote lock system. Total cost not to exceed \$184,894 funding sources \$19,599 from SDA Emergent and Capital Maintenance Needs Funding, and \$165,295 maintenance reserve withdrawal.

Account Line # 11-000-261-OM-000.

DO53 Be It Resolved that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools approves the following 2023-2024 Tuition Contract from April 8, 2024 through June 30, 2024 for SID#9056675311 attending Bergen County Special Services - Visions Emerson Campus - \$63,900 prorated - State Aide Funding.

DO54 Be It Resolved that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following staff to attend the ESCNJ Vendor Expo, Tuesday, May 21, 2024 in Edison, NJ at no cost to the district, inclusive of travel reimbursement of \$0.47 per mile plus tolls:

John Gomez

Louis Albanese

Arthur Rosenberger

DO55 Be It Resolved that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools approves the following vendor, Encouraging Arts Incorporated, 1920 N. Carlyle Place, Arlington Heights, IL 60004.

Description: Podium and other custom school designs

DO56 Be It Resolved, that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the use of facilities for the Meadowlands Family Success Center to run Chess, Coding, and American Sign Language clubs for students on Mondays and Fridays from 3:05-4:05 PM beginning on April 29, 2024 through June 14th, 2024

Meadowlands Family Success Staff Members:

Kelsey Parodi

Ian Vega

Brille Kenner

DO57 Be It Resolved, that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the donation from Paramount Pictures Corporation.

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Description: Binders, coolers, fans, white and color paper, general office, supplies, etc.

Personnel

P21 Be It Resolved that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following medical leave for employee #39302427. The leave will be starting on March 27, 2024 through April 12, 2024 with a return to work date of on or about April 15, 2024. The employee will be paid using 12 sick days. A medical clearance is required to return to work.

P22 Be It Resolved that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the hiring of the following staff (teachers) for the 2024-2025 school year, pending necessary certification & fingerprinting requirements:

Elisa Gonzalez Step 1 BA \$55,000 (K-6 Teacher) - Effective September 1, 2024

Alfonso Guerrero Step 2 BA \$56,420 (Special Education) - Effective September 1, 2024

Justine Calrow Step 1 MA \$60,768 (Elementary Teacher)- Effective September 1, 2024

P23 Be It Resolved that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the hiring of the following School Nurse for the 2024-2025 school year.

Catalina Martone Step 18 MA \$94,227 Effective September 1, 2024

P24 Be It Resolved that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the hiring of the following Secretary for the 2024-2025 School Year

Misally Ortiz \$42,600 - Effective July 1,2024

Account Line# 11-000-240-105-WA-00-000

Account Line# 20-218-200-105-00-000

P25 Be It Resolved, that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following request for maternity leave of absence for employee #65321283. Expected disability period to begin on May 28, 2024 until June 20, 2024 paid using 18 sick days. Unpaid Family Leave through FMLA and NJFLA from September 5, 2024 until December 2, 2024. Employee #65321283 will be paid using 27 sick/personal days from December 3, 2024 until January 21, 2025. Unpaid leave from January 22, 2025 until January 31, 2025. Employee is responsible for any medical contributions during the FMLA period. Employee will return to work on February 3, 2025.

P26 Be It Resolved, that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following pool of teachers/paraprofessionals to be used as needed for Family Engagement Nights and/or planning/preparation for the nights from October 1, 2023 to August 31, 2024 at a rate of \$50.00 per hour for teachers not to exceed a total in the amount of \$6,000.

Rebecca Jost
Title 1 Funding

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- P27 Be It Resolved**, that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the Memorandum of Agreement between the Little Ferry Secretaries Association (LFSA), & the Little Ferry Board of Education (LFBOE) for the following years: July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2028 (see attached)
- P28 Be It Resolved**, that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, accepts and approves the following retirements, effective July 1, 2024

Josephine Ciocia - Teacher
Jay Sollers - Teacher

The Board acknowledges Ms. Ciocia's 31 years of service and Mr. Sollers' 35 years of service and wishes them both good luck in retirement.

- P29 Be It Resolved**, that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following request for paternity leave of absence for employee #32878761. Paternity leave will commence on April 29, 2024 until May 3, 2024. Employee will be using five days. Employee will return to work on May 6, 2024.

Curriculum

- C05 Be It Resolved**, that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following **Professional Development** :
1. Jillian Calocino - Conquer Mathematics - Pompton Plains, NJ - Further building our Financial Literacy curriculum in Grades 5 - 8 - March 22, 2024 - 8:15 - 3 pm - at no cost to the district, inclusive of mileage.
 2. Ariel Stanziale - Bergen County Special Services - Washington South - OOD planning and annual review for LF Student - April 12, 2024 - 9:30 am - at no cost to the district, inclusive of mileage
 3. Rosa Cutri - March 19, 20 & 21, 2024 and Joselyn Miller - March 21, 2024 - SBJC - CPI Instructor Training - District will have 2 staff members to act as certified trainers for Crisis Intervention - cost to the district is \$6,198.00, inclusive of mileage.
 4. John Gomez & Kaitlyn O'Shea - 2024 NJASBO Annual Conference - June 5, 6 & 7, 2024 - Please refer to DO42.
 5. Melissa Felizzola, Carolyn Wedral, Kristen Kajiwara and Dongeun Lee - NJTESOL - New Brunswick, NJ - Collaboration, teaching strategies and curriculum resources for ESL classes- May 29 & 30, 2024 - 8 am - 3 pm - cost to the district is \$515.00 per teacher, inclusive of mileage.
 6. Louis Albanese, John Gomez & Arthur Rosenberger - ESCNJ Expo 2024 - New Jersey Convention and Exposition Center - Edison, NJ - Workshop Classes - May 21, 2024 - 8 am- Please refer to DO54.
 7. Melissa Felizzola & Carolyn Wedral - Heinemann and BCPSA - West Brook Middle School Paramus - Supporting Multilingual Educators and Students - March 26, 2024 - 8:05 am - 3:20 pm - at no cost to the district, inclusive of mileage.
 8. Joselyn Miller and Allison Le Gates - SBJC - Lodi, NJ - Intake for a transfer student - April 10, 2024 - 11 am - 1 pm - at no cost to the district, inclusive of mileage.
 9. Joselyn Miller - Ridgefield Park Public Schools - Ridgefield Park, NJ - Intake for student going OOD for 7th grade (ASD) - April 29, 2024 - 1 - 3 pm - at no cost to the district, inclusive of mileage.
 10. Jimmy Dunn, George Peakler and Allison Le Gates - Montclair State University Job Fair - Montclair, NJ - Find potential teacher candidates - April 11, 2024 - 9am - 2 pm - at no cost to the district, inclusive of mileage.
 11. James Dunn - William Paterson University - Wayne, NJ - Student Teachers, potential candidates as well as professional development - April 16, 2024 - 9 am - 2 pm - at no cost to the district, inclusive

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of mileage.

- 12. Megan Campbell, Nataly Perez, Jennifer Hacker, Marie Zuccato, William Paterson University, Preschool Professional Development, March 13, 2024 - At no cost to the district inclusive of mileage.

C06 Be It Resolved, that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following field trips:

Field Trip	New York City
Date	April 10, 2024
Grade	8
Participants	Total: 47 Students – 5 Teachers - 2 Others

Field Trip	Pickens Park, (Clean-up) Little Ferry, NJ
Date	April 19, 2024 - 9:30 am - 12:30 pm
Grade	7
Participants	Total: 67 Students – 6 Teachers

D. Facilities

FA04 Be It Resolved, that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following facilities requests:

Wolves Basketball/All Star Spotlight LLC - April 13, 2024 9AM-4PM - LF Hall of Fame Event

E. Policy -

PO02 Be It Resolved that the Little Ferry Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following policies and regulations for 2nd read:

Recommendations

- P3211 Code of Ethics**
- P5440 Honoring Student Achievement**
- P5570 Sportsmanship**
- P5842 Equal Access of Student Organizations**
- P5841 Secret Societies**
- P7610 Vandalism**
- R7610 Vandalism**
- P9323 Notification of Juvenile Offender Case Description**

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Mandatory

- P 1140 Educational Equity Policies/ Affirmative Action
- P 1523 Comprehensive Equity Plan
- P 1530 Equal Employment Opportunities
- R 1530 Equal Employment Opportunities Complaint Procedure
- P1550 Equal Employment/Anti-Discrimination Practices
- R 2200 Curriculum Content
- P 2260 Equity in School Classroom Practices
- R 2260 Equity in School Classroom Practices Complaint Procedure
- P 2411 Guidance Counseling
- P 5750 Equitable Educational Programs and Services
- P 5755 Equity in Educational Programs and Services
- P 2423 Bilingual Education
- R2423 Bilingual Education
- P 2431.4 Prevention and treatment of Sports-Related Concussions and Head Injuries
- R 2431.4 Prevention and treatment of Sports-Related Concussions and Head Injuries

Block Vote: F12-F17; DO42-DO57; P21-P29; C05-C06 FA04 PO02-				
<i>Motion:</i>	<i>Second:</i>			
<i>Member</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Abstain</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Mrs. Brattoli (Michelle)				
Mrs. Patel (Purna)				
Mr. Fytros (Nicholas)				
Mrs. Gottlieb (Leslie)				
Mr. Mele (Frank)				
Ms. Villasuso (Lourdes)				
Mr. Vorisek (Raymond)				
Mr. Bonelli (Brian) <i>Vice President</i>				
Mrs. Bradley (Victoria) <i>President</i>				

- X. **Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items)**
- XI. **Unfinished Business**
- XII. **New Business**
- XIII. **Executive Session**

Be It Resolved, that the Little Ferry Board of Education determines it is necessary to meet in Executive Session on **Thursday, April 18, 2024** at _____pm to discuss matters of personnel, negotiations, and litigation; and

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

Motion to adjourn: _____ Time: _____

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XIV. Adjournment

<i>Motion:</i>	<i>Second:</i>			
<i>Member</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Abstain</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Mrs. Brattoli (Michelle)				
Mrs. Patel (Purna)				
Mr. Fytros (Nicholas)				
Mrs. Gottlieb (Leslie)				
Mr. Mele (Franki)				
Ms. Villasuso (Lourdes)				
Mr. Vorisek (Raymond)				
Mr. Bonelli (Brian) <i>Vice President</i>				
Mrs. Bradley (Victoria) <i>President</i>				

Time of Adjournment: _____ pm