

**Board of Education of the Township of Clark, Union County, NJ**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes November 6, 2017**

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The Public Session of this meeting began at 7:00 p.m. and was held in the Clark Council Chambers located at 315 Westfield Avenue in Clark.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS STATEMENT**

This is a public meeting of the Board of Education of the Clark Public Schools. Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with PL1975, Chapter 231, in that a special notice was made in conformance with Section 13 of the Act.

**PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

**ROLL CALL 7:01 P.M.**

**Present:** Scott Bohm  
Laura Caliguire  
Steven Donkersloot, Vice President  
Christine Guerriero, Garwood Representative  
Thomas Lewis  
Robert Smorol  
Henry R. Varriano

**Absent:** Lorraine j. Aklonis  
Carmen Brocato  
Jill Curran, President

**Also Present:** Edward Grande, Superintendent of Schools  
R. Paul Vizzuso, Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
Saga Elsekhely, Student Board Member

**SHOWCASE OF SUCCESS**

Emma Knutson  
National Merit Commended Scholar  
Presented by Jennifer Feeley, Principal ALJ

**PRESENTATIONS**

Clark Education Fund (CEF) Grant Recipients  
Grants awarded by Robert Brede, Donna, Mulvihill, Kristin Panayoutou

K-5 STEAM Program

Presented by FKH teachers Teresa Gotti, Cindy Tarello  
FKH students Nico Fiumefreddo, Bradyn Weber

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion: Christine Guerriero  
Second: Laura Caliguire

**Roll Call:** Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0

**Be it resolved by the Board of Education of the Township of Clark that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that**

the following minutes are hereby approved:

Executive and Public Session minutes of the October 2, 2017 Regular Board Meeting  
Once the need for confidentiality no longer exists, Executive Session minutes may be available to the public.

**Thomas Lewis, Board Member** - Thanked the parents, teachers, administrators and the Superintendent for all the work that is happening in the elementary schools as well as the entire district.

He then discussed the necessary replacement of the turf field at the high school. He stated that the life of a turf field is ten years and our turf is heavily used. This past year, the district incurred an expensive repair as a hole was found at the 50 yard line. He commented that the turf must now be replaced or liability issues could result. He explained that the Township has graciously offered to split the cost with the district.

**Laura Caliguire, Board Member** - Referenced the comments made on Facebook and explained that the source of funding for the replacement of the field is ultimately the taxpayers. She stated that by splitting the cost with the Township, the district will still have money in the school budget for academics. She also stressed the importance of replacing the turf for the safety of all those who use it.

**Robert Smorol, Board Member** - Commented on the safety and liability issues involved. He explained that the turf is tested two times a year by an outside consultant group and that they informed us that we are getting dangerously close to failing. If that were to happen, we would not be able to use the turf which would impact many groups.

**FLOOR OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

The floor was opened to the public at 7:34 p.m. and closed at 7:35 p.m. after the following comments were made.

**Jerry Fogle, 9 Pine Street, Clark** – Inquired if the attachments to the agendas could be made available on the website so that the public can see them prior to the Board voting on them.

**Edward Grande, Superintendent of Schools** – Commented that they will look into making the attachments public.

**PERSONNEL**

**RESOLUTION BY BLOCK VOTE (1-12)**

Motion: Laura Caliguire  
Second: Thomas Lewis

**Roll Call:** Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 1 Christine Guerriero - #1-5, 7

**Be it resolved by the Board of Education of the Township of Clark that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that**

1. the resignation of Stephanie Lewis, maternity leave replacement school psychologist, from the Clark Public Schools (CHK), is hereby accepted effective December 12, 2017 or sooner pending start date of replacement school psychologist.
2. the resignation of Kelly Caporaso, before/after care aide, from the Clark Public Schools, is hereby accepted effective October 24, 2017.

3. the resignation of Susan Rickert, before/after care aide, from the Clark Public Schools, is hereby accepted effective September 29, 2017.
4. Tara Szarszewski is hereby appointed as a cafeteria/playground aide for the Clark Public Schools (FKH) for the 2017-2018 school year, at a rate of \$11.00 per hour, without benefits, pending a criminal history background check and a complete health physical.
5. Christina Doctor is hereby appointed as a before/after care aide for the Clark Public Schools for the 2017-2018 school year, at a rate of \$13.50 per hour, without benefits, pending a criminal history background check and a complete health physical.
6. Deybi Hernandez is hereby appointed as a substitute bus driver for the Clark Public Schools for the 2017-2018 school year, at a rate of \$15.00 per hour, without benefits, pending a criminal history background check and a complete health physical.
7. Danielle Bihuniak, teacher for the Clark Public Schools (CHK), is hereby granted a maternity/disability leave commencing on or about May 1, 2018; and  
**Be it further resolved** that this leave shall be without pay; and  
**Be it further resolved** that this leave shall end on or about June 21, 2018.
8. Katrina Poskay, teacher for the Clark Public Schools (ALJ), is hereby granted a maternity/disability leave commencing on or about December 18, 2017; and  
**Be it further resolved** that Katrina Poskay shall use forty-four (44) accumulated unused sick days and one (1) accumulated unused personal day at the beginning of this leave; and  
**Be it further resolved** that once the forty-five (45) accumulated unused sick and personal days are exhausted, the remaining days of this leave shall be without pay; and  
**Be it further resolved** that this leave shall end on or about May 31, 2018.
9. the following individual is hereby approved for the Winter “Athletics” extracurricular coaching position for the Clark Public Schools (ALJ) for the 2017-2018 school year as listed:

**Arthur L. Johnson High School**

**APPOINT:**

<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>
Head Swimming	Robert Cahill	\$6,319.00

10. the following individual is hereby approved for the Winter “Athletics” extracurricular Non-BOE paid coaching position for the Clark Public Schools (ALJ) for the 2017-2018 school year as listed:

**Arthur L. Johnson High School**

**APPOINT:**

<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Name</u></b>
Swimming	Kelly Cahill

11. the following individuals are hereby approved as members of the School Improvement Panels for the respective schools for the 2017-2018 school year as listed:

**ALJ**

Jennifer Feeley, Principal  
 Edward Bucior, Assistant Principal  
 Francis Wagenblast, Teacher/School Academic Coordinator

**CHK**

Richard Delmonaco, Principal  
Amanda Davidson, Assistant Principal  
Nicole Viola, Teacher

**FKH and CPA**

Shirley Bergin, Principal  
Mallory Applebaum, Assistant Principal  
Lori Kowalski, Supervisor/School Nurse  
Jacqueline Caplette, Teacher

**VRS**

Joseph Beltramba, Principal  
Mallory Applebaum, Assistant Principal  
Patricia Peitz, Teacher

12. the following individuals are hereby appointed as substitutes for the Clark Public Schools for the 2017-2018 school year:

**Substitute Teacher**

Joseph Frost (UC-BA)

**Substitute Aide**

Tara Gordon  
Frances Parisi  
Karen Quigley

**Substitute Nurse**

Pamela Palmieri

**CURRICULUM/EDUCATION**

**RESOLUTION BY BLOCK VOTE (13-15)**

Motion: Laura Caliguire  
Second: Robert Smorol

**Roll Call:** Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 1 Christine Guerriero - #13

**Be it resolved by the Board of Education of the Township of Clark that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that**

13. the establishment of the Junior Thespian Society (volunteer) at Carl H. Kumpf Middle School is hereby approved.

14. WHEREAS, the employees listed below are requesting Board of Education authorization to attend the conferences/workshops listed below; and

WHEREAS, the attendance at stated functions was previously approved by the chief school administrator as work related within the scope of the work responsibilities of the attendees and within the funds budgeted for this purpose; and

WHEREAS, the attendance at these functions was approved as promoting delivery of instruction or furthering efficient operation of the school district; and fiscally prudent; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes attendance at the stated

conferences/workshops and reimbursement for the related expenses in accordance with Board policy on conference and workshop attendance:

The Zones of Regulation – A Framework to Foster Self-Regulation and Emotional Control on Thursday, December 7, 2017. 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at APA Hotel, Iselin, NJ at the cost of \$265.00 – Lauren Baldeon

2018 DAANJ State Conference on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, March 12-15, 2018. 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p. m. at Golden Nugget Hotel & Casino, Atlantic City, NJ at the cost of \$375.00 – Gus Kalikas

15. the following educational field trip requests are hereby approved as listed:

**Destination:** National Constitution Center, Philadelphia, PA  
**Date:** 12/05/2017 **Grade(s):** AP U.S. Gov’t & Politics  
**School:** Arthur L. Johnson High School  
**No. of Adults:** 4 **No. of Students:** 40  
**Cost to BOE:** \$0.00

**Destination:** Jefferson High School, Oak Ridge, NJ  
**Date:** 03/10/2018 **Grade(s):** 9-12  
**School:** Arthur L. Johnson High School  
Indoor Percussion  
**No. of Adults:** 12 **No. of Students:** 30  
**Cost to BOE:** \$1,700.00

**Destination:** Spirit Cruise Line, Weehawken, NJ  
**Date:** 05/18/2018 **Grade(s):** 8  
**School:** Carl H. Kumpf Middle School  
**No. of Adults:** Approx. 17 **No. of Students:** Approx. 167  
**Cost to BOE:** \$1,000.00

**POLICY**

**RESOLUTION BY BLOCK VOTE (16)**

**Motion:** Scott Bohm  
**Second:** Laura Caliguire

**Roll Call:** Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0

**Be it resolved by the Board of Education of the Township of Clark that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that**

16. the Clark Board of Education adopts the following regulation on first reading. A copy of this document is on file in the Board Office.

**Regulation**  
R 2624 Grading System

**BOARD GOVERNANCE**

**RESOLUTION BY BLOCK VOTE (17-21)**

**Motion:** Thomas Lewis  
**Second:** Laura Caliguire

Roll Call: Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 1 Christine Guerriero - #20, 21

Be it resolved by the Board of Education of the Township of Clark that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that

17. approval is hereby given for the Foundations of Biology students at Arthur L. Johnson High School to participate in the Collaborative Teaching: A Comparison of the One Teach/One Assist Model and Team Teaching Model on Student’s Time On-Task and Academic Progress research study through Kean University.

18. the following individuals are hereby approved as novice teacher mentors for the Clark Public Schools for the 2017-2018 school year:

- Megan Consiglio
- Nicole Drasin
- Maria Falzone
- Victoria Hynes
- Nicole Viola

19. the following student from Fairleigh Dickinson University is hereby approved for student teaching in the Clark Public Schools as listed:

<u>Student</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>School</u>
Bridgette Maiorelli	January 22, 2018 – May 4, 2018	ALJ (English)

20. the following student from Montclair State University is hereby approved for an Internship/Practicum in the Clark Public Schools as listed:

<u>Student</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>School</u>
Vittoria Racioppi	Nov. 7, 2017 – Dec. 22, 2017	FKH/VRS (Psychologist)

21. the following students from Kean University are hereby approved for an Internship/Practicum in the Clark Public Schools as listed:

<u>Student</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>School</u>
Michael Bolen	Jan. 16, 2018 – May 22, 2018	District (Guidance)
Kayla Cotone	Jan. 2, 2018 – June 21, 2018	FKH/VRS (Psychologist)

**FINANCE**

**RESOLUTION BY BLOCK VOTE (22-37)**

Motion: Robert Smorol  
Second: Scott Bohm

Roll Call: Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 1 Christine Guerriero - #22, 27, 28

Be it resolved by the Board of Education of the Township of Clark that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that

22. approval is hereby given for student #1236069566 (elementary) attending Cranford Lincoln Elementary Achievement Program for the following related services in the amount of:

Speech	\$2,880.00
Occupational Therapy	\$1,440.00

23. approval is hereby given for the out-of-district placement and tuition for the 2017-2018 school year, retroactive September 7, 2017, for the following student:

<b>Student #</b>	<b>Placement</b>	<b>Tuition</b>
8918195148 (High School)	Watchung Hills Regional High School	\$48,200.00

24. approval is hereby given for the out-of-district placement and tuition for the 2017 Extended School Year Program, retroactive to July 5, 2017, for the following student:

<b>Student #</b>	<b>Placement</b>	<b>Tuition</b>
5810632347 (High School)	Deron School II ESY	\$8,205.00

25. approval is hereby given to inlingua to translate documents and evaluations from a foreign language to English as needed at the stated rates. (Attachment A)

26. the agreement with Frontline Technologies Group, LLC to provide translation services of Individualized Education Programs (IEPs), and/or various evaluations, meeting notices, records and other communications as needed is hereby approved. (Attachment B)

27. a donation of materials and labor to build a landscape wall around the electronic sign at the Valley Road Elementary School (VRS) at a total value of \$1,700.00 is hereby accepted from Boy Scout Troop 145 with appreciation.

28. a donation in the amount of \$130.00 to the Frank K. Hehnly Elementary School for the purchase of band folders is hereby accepted from Y Squares with appreciation.

29. the contract with Educational Technology Integrators to continue in the capacity as information technology management consultant for the Clark Public Schools for the 2017-2018 school year, effective July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 at an annual fee of \$247,860.00 is hereby approved. (Contract on file in Board Office)

30. the contract with Dr. Jodie Bachman to continue in the capacity as School Physician for the Clark Public School District from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 is hereby approved. (Contract on file in Board Office)

31. the Nonpublic School Technology Initiative Program Agreements for the participating schools located within this District are hereby approved (Attachment C).

32. the proposal from Karl & Associates Inc. to provide Air Quality Management Services for the 2017-2018 school year, including an annual review of the District’s Indoor Air Quality Program at a cost of \$100.00 and four air quality building inspections at a cost of \$250.00 each is hereby approved.

33. the proposal from Karl & Associates Inc. to provide AHERA Surveillance Services for the 2017-2018 school year including one three year re-inspection in December 2017 at a cost of \$1,750.00 and one six month surveillance in June 2018 at a cost of \$1,350.00 is hereby approved.

34. authorization is hereby given to Parette Somjen Architects to submit all necessary plans and paperwork to the Department of Education concerning the Storage Tank (Hot Water) Replacement at Arthur L. Johnson High School to serve as an application to the office of School Facilities and an amendment to the District’s Long Range Facility Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this project shall be an “Other Capital” project and the Board of Education is NOT seeking State funding but will fund the Project through the District’s Capital Outlay Account.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board authorize the Business Administrator and Parette Somjen Architect to solicit a public bid for the purpose of completing this project.

35. the Board of Education accepts the financial reports, as submitted, which include the monthly Board Secretary’s report and the Treasurer of School Monies report for the month ended September 30, 2017. The Board notes that the Secretary’s and Treasurer’s reports are in balance for the cash receipts and disbursements for the month ended September 30, 2017 and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c), I, R. Paul Vizzuso, Board Secretary, certify that as of September 30, 2017 no budgetary line item Account has obligations and payments which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the District Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8 and 18A:22-8.1, and that the District financial accounts have been reconciled and are in balance, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that through the adoption of this resolution, we, the Clark Board of Education, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10, certify that as of September 30, 2017, after review of the Board Secretary’s monthly financial report (appropriation section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, that to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

36. the Board of Education hereby approves the Monthly Transfer Report for the month ended September 30, 2017. (Attachment D)

37. the Bill List submitted in the amount of \$1,759,146.85 for November 7, 2017 is hereby approved and payment authorized as funds of the board are made available following this meeting.

**REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

- Again, congratulations Emma and CEF grant recipients. Thanks to CEF for the grants and FKH for the STEAM presentation.
- School Improvement Panels that were approved this evening are mandatory through AchieveNJ.
- ALJ Open House in mid-October was an immense success. Reach out to Mrs. Babis to arrange for Freshman for a Day visit.
- Junior Thespian Society at CHK.
- Thanks to Boy Scouts for landscape wall around electronic signboard at VRS.
- Thanks to Y Squares for band folders at FKH.
- We recently had the drinking water sources across all of our schools re-tested. The following four sources were found to be problematic and the following remediation plans have already been enacted.



School	Location	Type	Remediation Plan
CHK	Main Office	Drinking water fountain	Removed and capped
FKH	Kitchen	Sprayer	Removed and capped
FKH	Kitchen	Sink	Sign put up saying “Hand wash only, no food preparation”
FKH	Kitchen	Sink	Sign put up saying “Hand wash only, no food preparation”

These reports can be found on the district website.

- Professional Day tomorrow; Schools closed for students.
- Schools closed for students and teachers on Thursday and Friday for NJEA Convention.
- Happy Thanksgiving!

### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEES

None

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

### NEW BUSINESS

None

### STUDENT BOARD MEMBER UPDATE

Saga Elsekhely reported to the Board on activities for ALJ, CHK, FKH, VRS and CPA.

### HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

The floor was opened to the public at 7:47 p.m.

**Jerry Fogle, 9 Pine Street, Clark** – Commented that he read about the issues concerning the turf field on Facebook and felt information should have been shared with the public sooner. Inquired about the condition of the field and the tests performed to determine its condition.

**Robert Smorol, Board Member** – Explained that an impact test is performed on the turf two times a year by an outside consultant.

**Jerry Fogle, 9 Pine Street, Clark** – Inquired as to the name of the firm that conducted the test, when it was last tested and what the results were.

**Robert Smorol, Board Member** – Commented that the Athletic Director, Gus Kalikas, would be in a better position to address these questions but that he believed it was last tested in June and that a hole on the 50 yard line was subsequently discovered and repaired. It was tested again just before the season started and we were informed that we could use it this year but advised that the turf field had run its life.

**Thomas Lewis, Board Member** – The turf is heavily used by our students in physical education classes, the athletic and recreation departments as well as for UCIAC events. For safety and liability issues, we have to replace it.

**Robert Smorol, Board Member** – The Athletic Director has been in communication with him over the past two years notifying him of the deterioration of the field.

**Laura Caliguire, Board Member** – Stated that the offer had to be approved by the township first which

resulted in the article being printed prior to the board Meeting.

**Jerry Fogle, 9 Pine Street, Clark** – Feels information should have been published so there would have been less questions.

**Thomas Lewis, Board Member** – Stated that the offer from the Township is a good deal and a high priority.

**Robert Smorol, Board Member** – Commented that we do not always inform the public about everything that needs to be replaced and that it would be premature to publish information on it prior to the Board voting on it.

**Christine Guerriero, Board Member** – Inquired when the Board will vote on the agreement with the Township.

**Edward Grande, Superintendent of Schools** – Commented that the Board will vote on the agreement but that we are not at that point yet.

**Laura Caliguire, Board Member** – Commented that over the past few days there was a lot of interest in the fields and schools and she hopes that this interest continues. She encouraged everyone to stay involved even after the election.

The floor closed at 8:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: Robert Smorol  
Second: Laura Caliguire

BE IT RESOLVED, that with no further business to come before the Clark Board of Education, the meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

R. Paul Vizzuso  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
fm

- Attachment A – inlingua Rates
- Attachment B – Frontline Technologies Group, LLC Agreement
- Attachment C – Nonpublic School Technology Initiative Program Agreements
- Attachment D – September Monthly Transfer Report