

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education in the City of Linden, County of Union, New Jersey, was held in the gymnasium of School #1, 728 N. Wood Avenue, Linden, New Jersey on Thursday evening, April 28, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held both in-person and via an online medium.

President Rivas opened the meeting with a salute to the flag and the Board Secretary announced that in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, adequate notice of this meeting had been provided as follows:

On January 10 and February 14, 2022 notice was sent to the Home News Tribune, Star Ledger, Union County Local Source, and the Clerk of the Municipality.

NO SMOKING NOTICE:

BY STATE LAW, THERE IS NO SMOKING PERMITTED IN THIS BUILDING AT ANY TIME.

NOTICE:

In addition to the listed items in this agenda, this Board of Education may discuss and act upon other items not specifically referred to herein as is allowed at the regularly scheduled monthly Board meeting under the Sunshine Law.

ROLL CALL 7:08 p.m.:

Board Members		Others	
Ms. Pino	P	Dr. Hazelton	P
Ms. Thomas	P	Mrs. Cleary	P
Dr. Berghammer	P	Ms. Gaylord	P
Ms. Cintron	P	Dr. Baldwin	P
Mr. De La Cruz	P	Attorney, J. Garcia	P
Mrs. Flemming	P		
Ms. Guillaume	P		
Mr. Martucci	P		
Mr. Rivas	P		

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Motion to approve the Minutes of the Tentative Budget Meeting held on March 23, 2022, and the combined Work Session/Regular Meeting held on March 31, 2022. (Copies in the hands of Board Members).

Roll Call:

Board Member	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Pino					X
Ms. Thomas		X	X		
Dr. Berghammer			X		
Ms. Cintron			X		
Mr. De La Cruz	X		X		
Mrs. Flemming					X
Ms. Guillaume					X
Mr. Martucci			X		3/23/22
Mr. Rivas			X		

Motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC (agenda items only):

Members of the public desiring to make a public comment may come forward at this time.

Please begin your comments by stating your name and address. Individuals are invited to speak on one topic at a time, and no individual will speak more than once, until all individuals so desiring have spoken once.

The public is reminded that to ensure the efficient and orderly operations of the meeting, members of the public will be limited to speaking on items for three minutes.

Kevin Thurston, LASA President
57 Roosevelt Avenue
Jersey City, NJ

Peter Fingerlin, School #2 Principal
724 Charlotte Street
Toms River, NJ

Mr. Fingerlin spoke about the fact that School #2 has been down a secretary since February. Although he is thankful they will now be getting a secretary, he asked the board if they could explain their reasoning as to why they did not go with the interview committee's recommendation, as he felt she was an ideal fit for his building.

Mr. Garcia thanked Mr. Fingerlin for the cordial way in which he expressed his concerns, however, personnel cannot be discussed in public.

Claudia Dolan, LEA V.P.
1309 Thomas Avenue
North Brunswick, NJ

She spoke in support of secretaries being hired tonight, and in support of secretaries in general.

Mayor Derek Armstead
516 Carnegie Street

Mayor Armstead said it's not up to him to say who should be selected as a secretary at School #2. The candidate the board selected, whether she's bilingual or not, came from that area and knows that area, and it's hard to second guess that recommendation. He urged the board to continue to take the time to evaluate secretaries and any other individual for that matter.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

1. See information to the Board.
2. Dr. Hazelton said that she is very proud to announce that our district has once again been recognized among the Best Communities for Music Education in the nation! This is the eighth year in a row that we have received this wonderful honor. It is a testament to the hard work of our music teachers and all of our staff, led by Supervisor of Fine and Performing Arts Matthew Lorenzetti, and most of all our students. Linden is one of just 45 communities to be selected in New Jersey, and one of just four here in Union County.
3. In keeping with that theme, she said that she's excited that we are starting our spring concert and art showcase at all of our schools. She was able to attend the Linden High School dance concert last night, where teacher Barbara Brady and her dancers did a beautiful job. The concerts will run over the next few weeks throughout the district. The full schedule is available in our LindenCelebrates newsletter.
4. Congratulations to ten orchestra students from McManus and Soehl Middle Schools and School No. 2 for being chosen for the Central Jersey Music Educators Association Honors Orchestra. The students were selected because of their abilities and work ethic. They worked for three weeks before joining their peers from other schools for a day of rehearsing and performing.

5. She said she's happy to announce that we are ready to launch our district's new mobile app, where staff, students, and families will be able to get district news, information, and alerts on their mobile devices. The app is integrated so parents can log in to get information specific to their student, and can sign up to follow the schools of their choice. The app is currently live in the App Store and Google Play store. Just search for "Linden Public Schools" and download. You'll be hearing much more in the coming days about what the app offers and how to get it and use it. Thanks to Dr. Suzanne Olivero, Slawek Pajak, and Gary Miller for their work over the past year to get the app built, integrated, and ready to launch.
6. At this time Dr. Hazelton recognized the Teachers and Educational Service Professionals of the Year as follows:

School	Teacher
One	Michelle Padovano
Two	Wendy Squeglia
Four	Gina Devito
Five	Elena Sandoval
Six	Donna Didyoung
Eight	Joan Dolan
Nine	Theresa Rogakos
Ten	Allison Smith
McManus	Patricia Klingert
Soehl	Kimberly Leight
Linden High School	Lin Lin Hu

School	Educational Services Professional
One	Bogumila Madej
Two	Karen Sales
Four	Mary Ann Polini
Five	Jane White
Six	Susan Ortiz
Eight	Donna Longo
Nine	Rachel Cordero
Ten	Jessica DeJesus
McManus	Ricardo Ciprian
Soehl	Christine Urbanczyk
Linden High School	Lauren Bosio

7. Finally, Dr. Hazelton acknowledged the retirees on tonight's agenda.

Brian Martinson
Donald Raulinavich
Ann Toporowski
Sandra Hernandez
Norma McFeeley
Rosa Ramirez
Rebecca Kolar

Dr. Hazelton finished by wishing all support staff a Happy Administrative Professionals' week.

The Education Committee, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and the Assistant Superintendent, present the following motions to the Linden Board of Education for approval:

1. Approve the enrollment as required by state law, of the following students with disabilities in a specialized program for the 2021-2022 school year in accordance with their Individualized Education Plan (IEP) as shown below:

Classification	Recommended Placement	Effective Date	Tuition
Other Health Impaired	Bonnie Brae 3415 Valley Rd. Liberty Corner, NJ 07938	3/23/22	25,200.00 pro rata 420.00 per diem
Pre-School Child with Disabilities	Deron I 1140 Commerce St. Union, NJ 07083	4/11/22	15,019.90 pro rata 349.30 per diem
Pre-School Child with Disabilities	DLC New Providence 330 Central Ave. New Providence, NJ 07074	4/18/22	25,689.83 pro rata 537.70 per diem
Other Health Impaired	Westbridge Academy 60 West Street Bloomfield, NJ 07003	4/6/22	22,966.32 pro rata 441.66 per diem
Autism	Westlake School 970 Suburban Rd. Union, NJ 07083	3/28/22	23,567.50 pro rata 428.50 per diem

2. Approve termination of the following out-of-district placement for the 2021-2022 school year:

Classification	Recommended Placement	Effective Date	Tuition
Other Health Impaired	Lamberts Mill Academy 1571 Lamberts Mill Rd. Westfield, NJ 07090	12/17/21	58,540.00 annual 325.22 per diem
Autistic	In Roads to Opportunities 301 Cox St. Roselle, NJ 07203	9/7/21	47,700.00 annual 265.00 per diem

3. Approve payment for the related services as per Child Study Team evaluation.

Related Services	Fees Not to Exceed
BILINGUAL SPEECH EVALUATION Anthony Muscato 9 High Mountain Trail Lincoln Park, NJ 07035	3 @ \$400.00
BILINGUAL PSYCHOEDUCATIONAL EVALUATION New Hope Psychological Services Kashyapi Shah 3 Aster Way Dayton, NJ 08810	1,300.00
BILINGUAL SPEECH EVALUATION New Hope Psychological Services Kashyapi Shah 3 Aster Way Dayton, NJ 08810	550.00
BILINGUAL SOCIAL HISTORY EVALUATION New Hope Psychological Services Kashyapi Shah 3 Aster Way Dayton, NJ 08810	500.00

4. Amend Board action on past Education Reports, as listed:

Date	Item#	Action
1/25/22	17	Add, All Participating Schools to the LINCS Food Pantry Walk-a-thon.
3/31/22	13/ # 4, 16	Amend the dates to read 6/2/22, 6/3/22 instead of 4/7/22, 4/8/22 for Strengthening Families program.
3/31/22	14	Amend the name of the WIDA Webinar Workshop to read Scaffolding Learning through Language instead of Supporting ELLS During Virtual Learning.
3/31/22	15	Amend the location of 2022 Secondary ESY Program for (MD 6-8), (Autistic 6-8) and (MD 9-12) from McManus Middle School to LAST.

4. Continued:

Date	Item#	Action
3/31/22	16	Amend the dates for the Title I After School Program SOAR to read 5/10/22, 5/11/22, 5/17/22, 5/18/22, 5/24/22, 5/25/22, 5/31/22 & 6/1/22 instead of 4/27/22, 4/28/22, 5/11/22, 5/12/22, 5/18/22, 5/19/22, 5/24/22, 5/25/22.
3/31/22	17	Amend the location of 2022 Secondary Remedial Reading for grades (6-8 and 9-12) from McManus Middle School to LAST.

5. Grant permission for the following *Use of Facilities and School Activities* on the dates/times listed:

School	Requested By	Date	Time/Location	Event	Expenses
Ten	Walker, David	4/29/22	9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Assembly The Lizard Guy	None
MMS	Scocozza, Isabella	5/5/22 5/31/22 6/13/22	8:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Gymnasium	Lead U College and Career Readiness Workshops for Grades 6, 7, & 8	\$5,400.00 20-390-100-300-00-000-55 Middle Grade Grant
MMS	Perkins, Atiya	7/19/22 7/20/22	1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	6 th Grade Orientation	None
SMS	Scocozza, Isabella	6/14/22 6/15/22 6/16/22	8:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Gymnasium	Lead U College and Career Readiness Workshops for Grades 6, 7, & 8	\$5,400.00 20-390-100-300-00-000-55 Middle Grade Grant
SMS	Gwendolyn, Long	7/19/22 7/20/22	1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	6 th Grade Orientation	None
LHS	Horre, Yelena	6/1/22	6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Talent Show	None

6. Approve the Lead U College and Career Readiness Workshop for all elementary school grade 5 students. Total cost \$7,200.00, to be paid from account# 20-390-100-300-00-000-55.

School	Date	Time/Location
One	5/19/22	10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m./Gym
Two	5/16/22	1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m./Gym
Four	5/12/22	10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m./Gym
Five	5/2/22	10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m./Gym
Six	5/16/22	10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m./Gym
Eight	5/19/22	1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m./Gym
Nine	5/12/22	1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m./Gym
Ten	5/2/22	1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m./Gym

7. Approve *Training for District Staff*, as listed:

#	Name	Workshop	Dates	Location	Cost
1.	Bachmann, Kimberly	6 th Annual NJ Computer Science Summit	5/13/22	New Brunswick, NJ	None
2.	Barbone, Shira	Elementary Conflict Resolution	5/16/22	Virtual	None
3.	Burress, Durell	6 th Annual NJ Computer Science Summit	5/13/22	New Brunswick, NJ	None
4.	Cleary, Denise	NJASA Spring Conference	5/18/22 5/19/22 5/20/22	Atlantic City, NJ	Other Expenses \$585.00 11-000-221-580-PD-000-04
5.	Correia, Christine	Practical Strategies for Improving Student Behavior	4/29/22	Virtual	Registration \$279.00 11-000-223-580-PD-000-06-060
6.	DeFelice, Jessica	Clinical Supervision	8/3/22 8/4/22 8/10/22 8/11/22	Virtual	Registration \$280.00 11-000-223-580-PD-000-44
7.	Frankonis, Nicole	6 th Annual NJ Computer Science Summit	5/13/22	New Brunswick, NJ	None

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7. Continued:

#	Name	Workshop	Dates	Location	Cost
8.	Gonzalez, Vickie	21 st Century Community Learning Center Conference	6/10/22	Virtual	Registration \$200.00 20-254-200-500-00-000-35-070 21 st CCLC Grant
9.	Gross, Beverly	Managing Sudden Traumatic Loss	4/28/22 4/29/22	Virtual	None
10.	Kefalas, Kim Marie	6 th Annual NJ Computer Science Summit	5/13/22	New Brunswick, NJ	None
11.	Kefalas, Kim Marie	ISTE Conference 2022	6/26/22 6/27/22 6/28/22 6/29/22	Virtual	Registration \$475.00 11-000-223-580-PD-000-20
12.	Martin-Cooper, Tanya	New Jersey Assessment Math Rangefinding Meeting	5/17/22 5/18/22 5/19/22 5/20/22	Virtual	None
13.	Martin-Cooper, Tanya	New Jersey Statewide Assessment Program Content Review	6/14/22 6/15/22 6/16/22	Virtual	None
14.	Push, Leah	6 th Annual NJ Computer Science Summit	5/13/22	New Brunswick, NJ	None
15.	Scaldino, Joseph	ISTE Conference 2022	6/26/22 6/27/22 6/28/22 6/29/22	Virtual	Registration \$475.00 11-000-221-580-PD-000-20
16.	Schulz, Howard	6 th Annual NJ Computer Science Summit	5/13/22	New Brunswick, NJ	None
17.	Scocoza, Isabella	21 st Century Community Learning Center Conference	6/10/22	Virtual	Registration \$200.00 20-254-200-500-00-000-35-070 21 st CCLC Grant

7. Continued:

#	Name	Workshop	Dates	Location	Cost
18.	Stefanick, Marie	Understanding the “New” Special Education Student: Legal and Instructional Best Practices After Two Years of COVID-19	6/2/22	Kenilworth, NJ	None
19.	Stefanick, Marie	2022 Annual Summer Inclusion Leadership Conference	6/28/22	Kenilworth, NJ	None
20.	Yackanin, Grethe	Safety-Care Training Recertification	5/26/22	Raritan, NJ	Registration \$525.00 11-000-219-580-PD-000-33

8. Approve *District Field Trips*. Copy in the hands of the board members.

9. Approve Professional Development Activities, as listed:

Workshop	Provider(s)	Date(s)	Location	Cost
Writing Workshop Support	Dr. Kenneth Kunz For the Love of Literacy, LLC.	5/24/22 5/26/22	School 1	\$2,400.00 20-231-200-300-08-000-55-080

10. Approve Back to School Night Dates and Use of Facilities for 2022-2023 school year as listed:

School	Date(s)	Time
One	9/19/22	7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Two	9/22/22	7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Four	9/21/22	7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Five	9/21/22	7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Six	9/22/22	7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Eight	9/19/22	7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Nine	9/20/22	7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Ten	9/20/22	7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
McManus	9/14/22	7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Soehl	9/15/22	7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Linden High School, Academy of Excellence	9/28/22	7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

11. Approve hours for curriculum writing, as listed:

Curriculum	Grade	Hours
Chemistry	10-12	30
Physics	11-12	30

12. Approve hours for curriculum revision, as listed:

Curriculum	Grade	Hours
Language Arts	6	15
Language Arts	7	15
Language Arts	8	15
Language Arts	9	15
Language Arts	10	15
Language Arts	11	15
Language Arts	12	15

13. Approve the following payment schedule for extracurricular activities at the salary rate listed below on an as needed basis. 2022-2023 (Payment upon submission of voucher). Fee structure determined by the Union County Athletic Association.

FALL/WINTER/SPRING

SPORT	POSITION	RATE
Football, Soccer, Track	Student Timer/Scorekeeper	20.00
Volleyball, Basketball	Adult Timer/Scorekeeper	60.00
Wrestling, Swimming	Adult Announcer	85.00
Baseball, Softball	Scouting	25.00
Cheerleading, Tennis	Video Cameraman	50.00
	Police Duty (Minimum of 4 hours)	50.00
	Police Duty (Superior in Charge)	60.00
	Chain Crew (3 members) (football)	40.00
	Ticket Taker/Seller per game (+25.00-Football)	50.00
	Security (per game)	60.00
	Site Manager (Security + \$15.00)	75.00
	Cheerleading tryout judge	35.00

13. Continued:

SPORT	POSITION	RATE
Soccer	Varsity Official and Timer	87.00
	Sub-Varsity Official	65.00
	Varsity Assignor	115.00
	Sub -Varsity Assignor	65.00
	Sub -Varsity Assignor	65.00

SPORT	POSITION	RATE
Football	Varsity Official and Timer	107.00
	Sub-Varsity Official	66.00
	Varsity Assignor	115.00
	Sub -Varsity Assignor	65.00

SPORT	POSITION	RATE
Volleyball	Varsity Official and Timer	79.00
	Sub-Varsity Official	55.00
	Varsity/JV Official	110.00
	Varsity Assignor	110.00

SPORT	POSITION	RATE
Basketball	Varsity Official and Timer	88.00
	Sub-Varsity Official	65.00
	Varsity Assignor	115.00
	Sub -Varsity Assignor	80.00

SPORT	POSITION	RATE
Wrestling	Varsity Official and Timer	88.00
	Sub-Varsity Official	58.00
	Varsity /JV Assignor	153.00
	Sub -Varsity Assignor	80.00

SPORT	POSITION	RATE
Swimming	Varsity Official and Timer (B/G Dual)	92.00
	Varsity Official and Timer (B/G Single)	81.00
	Varsity /JV Assignor	153.00

13. Continued:

SPORT	POSITION	RATE
Softball	Varsity Official and Timer	84.00
	Sub-Varsity Official	65.00
	Varsity Assignor	75.00
	Sub -Varsity Assignor	60.00

SPORT	POSITION	RATE
Baseball	Varsity Official and Timer	90.00
	Sub-Varsity Official	67.00
	Varsity Assignor	100.00
	Sub -Varsity Assignor	60.00

SPORT	POSITION	RATE
Track	Varsity Official and Timer (4 or less teams)	90.00
	Varsity Official and Timer (5 or more teams)	105.00
	Varsity Assignor	88.00
	Sub -Varsity Assignor	N/A

SPORT	POSITION	RATE
All	Varsity/Sub Varsity Official (working alone)	Rate + 1/2

14. Authorize the Linden Athletic Training Staff to carry out treatment for athletic injuries and emergencies contained in the 2022-2023 *Linden Athletic Training Plan of Care*.
15. Approve as provided for in Chapter 172 Laws 1979 (N.J.S.A. 18A:11-3 et seq.). Enroll Linden High School as a member of the New Jersey Interscholastic Athletic Association to participate in the approved inter-school athletic programs sponsored by the NJSIAA. Authorize payment of N.J.S.I.A.A. annual dues in the amount of \$2500.00.
16. Approve teams who are traveling long distances, competing in all day events, or leaving or arriving at unreasonable hours, to be compensated at the rate of \$15.00 per meal for each athlete.
17. Approve coaching staff to be paid mileage (contractual rate) per mile plus tolls and programs to scout opponents.
18. Approve the following fees for the 2022-2023 school year:
Bowling League or Tournament games per bowler \$2.50
Bowling Practice games per bowler \$2.00

19. Grant permission to submit the New Jersey Department of Education 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant Application for the 2022-2023 school year.
20. Grant approval for the Linden Public Schools to participate in the Union County Board of County Commissioners “Empowering our Youth Summer Employment Program” and serve as a work site for the program.
21. Grant permission for the Linden Public School District to partner with Linden Uptown Incorporated in order to create a Student Technology Merchant Assistance Program to benefit Linden High School students.
22. Grant approval for district teachers to participate in PD; “Interpreting Access Scores for ELLs,” at the PDRC-L on 6/28/22. Teachers’ stipend not to exceed \$2,576.00 to be paid from Title III Funds, Acct. #20-241-200-100-00-001-54.
23. Grant approval for district teachers to participate in PD; “Scaffolding Learning through Language,” at the PDRC-L on 6/29/22 – 6/30/22. Teachers’ stipend not to exceed \$5,152.00 to be paid from Title III Funds, Acct. #20-241-200-100-00-001-54.
24. Grant permission for the Athletic Department to conduct a summer weight training program at the Field House/Linden High School from June 20, 2022, until August 9, 2022. This program will be open to all students, grades 6 through 12 enrolled in the Linden school district. The hours days/hours will be Monday– Thursday 8:00 a.m.- 8:00 p.m.
25. Grant permission for Kathryn Eldridge, from New Jersey City University, to complete her psychology internship in the Linden Public Schools for the 2022-2023 school year.
26. Approve home instruction services provided by Educational Services Commission of New Jersey, for Linden students admitted as patients to Children’s Specialized Hospital, New Brunswick, New Jersey, during the 2021-2022 school year, at a rate of \$69.00 per hour.
27. Approve home instruction services provided by Silvergate Prep for Linden students admitted to GenPsych PC, Bridgewater, New Jersey, during the 2021-2022 school year, at a rate of \$30.00 per hour.
28. Approve home instruction services provided by Prime Healthcare-Saint Clare’s Hospital, for Linden students admitted as patients to Saint Clare’s Hospital, Boonton, New Jersey during the 2021-2022 school year, at a rate of \$55.00 per hour.
29. Approve the cost of refreshments and supplies for the Title I Summer Slide Events at School #4 on 6/1/22 and 6/2/22. All costs to be paid for by the Title I Funds, Acct. # 20-231-200-500-10-PIN-55-115. Acct.# 20-231-200-500-10-000-55-115. Acct. # 20-231-200-600-10-PIN-55-115. Acct.# 20-231-200-600-10-000-55-115.

30. Approve the 2022 – 2023 *Trimester Dates* for elementary schools, as listed:

Trimester	Beginning Date	Interim End Date	End Date
1	September 6, 2022	October 21, 2022	December 9, 2022
2	December 12, 2022	January 31, 2023	March 15, 2023
3	March 16, 2023	May 5, 2023	*June 22, 2023

*Date may be moved up if inclement weather days are not used

31. Approve the 2022 – 2023 *Marking Period Dates* for middle and high schools, as listed:

Marking Period	Beginning Date	Interim End Date	End Date
1	September 6, 2022	October 7, 2022	November 15, 2022
2	November 16, 2022	December 19, 2022	January 31, 2023
3	February 1, 2023	March 3, 2023	April 5, 2023
4	April 17, 2023	May 16, 2023	*June 22, 2023

*Date may be moved up if inclement weather days are not used

32. Approve the 2022 – 2023 *Elementary Parent/Teacher Conference Dates*, as listed:

Day	Date
Tuesday	October 25, 2022
Wednesday	October 26, 2022
Thursday	October 27, 2022
Tuesday	March 21, 2023
Wednesday	March 22, 2023
Thursday	March 23, 2023

33. Proclaim the week of May 2 – 6, 2022 as “*National Teacher Appreciation Week*” as outlined in the following resolution:
- WHEREAS, Linden Public School teachers make public schools great; and
- WHEREAS, Linden Public School teachers work to open student’s minds to ideas, knowledge, and dreams; and
- WHEREAS, Linden Public School teachers are lifelong learners, adopting 21st Century learning strategies and embracing digital learning to prepare students for their future; and
- WHEREAS, Linden Public School teachers work daily to foster the well-being of each student, regardless of widely differing backgrounds and abilities; and
- WHEREAS, Linden Public School teachers keep American democracy alive by laying the foundation for good citizenship; and
- WHEREAS, Linden Public School teachers fill many roles, as listeners, explorers, role models, motivators, and mentors; and
- WHEREAS, Linden Public School teachers continue to influence us long after our school days are only memories:
- NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Linden Public School Board of Education, and Superintendent recognize and send their gratitude to the Linden Public School teachers and hereby proclaim May 3 – 7, 2021, as “*National Teacher Appreciation Week*” throughout the Linden Public Schools and strongly encourages all members of our community to join with it in personally expressing appreciation to our teachers for their dedication and devotion to their work.

34. Approve the Superintendent’s determination and actions taken for all reported incidents of Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying discussed at the March 31, 2022 regular meeting as listed:

Case	HIB	Action
MMS-441	Undetermined	Services provided.
MMS-440	No	Services provided.
MMS-439	No	Services provided.
MMS-438	No	Services provided, disciplined.
MMS-437	Yes	Services provided, disciplined.
MMS-436	Yes	Services provided, disciplined.
MMS-435	Yes	Services provided.
SMS-250	Yes	Services provided, disciplined.
SMS-249	Undetermined	Services provided, disciplined, parent meeting.
SMS-248	Yes	Services provided, disciplined.
SMS-247	Yes	Services provided.
Sch 10-50	No	Services provided.
Sch 9-76	Undetermined	Services provided.
Sch 5-24	Yes	Services provided, disciplined.
Sch 2-109	Undetermined	Services provided, disciplined.
Sch 2-108	Undetermined	Services provided, disciplined.
Sch 2-107	Yes	Services provided, disciplined.

MOTIONS 1 – 34:

Roll Call:

Board Member	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Pino			X		
Ms. Thomas			X		
Dr. Berghammer	X		X		
Ms. Cintron			X		
Mr. De La Cruz		X	X		
Mrs. Flemming			X		
Ms. Guillaume			X		
Mr. Martucci			X		
Mr. Rivas			X		

Motions 1 – 34 carried.

The Personnel Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools presents the following motions to the Linden Board of Education for approval. All appointments and reappointments are contingent upon, and may be modified based on student participation and the districts receipt of sufficient State School Aide and other revenue funding.

1. The following retirements be accepted with regret:

#	Name	Assignment	Location	Effective Date
1.	Martinson, Brian	Maintenance	Maintenance Dept.	7/1/22
2.	Raulinavich, Donald J.	Grounds Keeper/Maintenance	Maintenance Dept.	7/1/22
3.	Toporowski, Ann	Secretary	Special Services	7/1/22

WHEREAS, the above employees are retiring from active service in the public schools of Linden; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the members of the Board of Education of the City of Linden to express their appreciation for their loyal and unselfish service during their years; therefore; be it

RESOLVED, that the gratitude and best wishes of the members of the Board of Education of the City of Linden and hereby be tendered to the employees in acknowledgement of the service they so faithfully and conscientiously rendered, and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be spread on the minutes of the Board of Education.

2. Accept the resignation of the following staff:

#	Name	Position	Location	Effective Date
1.	Eckenrode, Amber	Teacher of Grade 1	School 9	7/1/22
2.	Harris, Maya	Teacher of Special Education	School 2	7/1/22
3.	Kushner, Danielle	Teacher of Physical Education	LHS	7/1/22

3. Amend Board action on past Personnel Reports, as listed:

Date	Item #	Action
9/30/21	11	Add Mendez, Yvonne for office/translation assistance during the 2021-2022 School Year for the Spring Evening Parent Teacher Conferences at School Two. To be paid at the contractual rate. Acct.# 11-190-100-106-00-002-00.

3. Continued:

Date	Item #	Action
9/30/21	11	Add Rodriguez, Alice, as office/translation staff during the 2021-2022 School Year for the Fall and Spring Evening Parent Teacher Conferences at School Two. To be paid at the contractual rate.
10/28/21	4	Amend the leave of absence for #7202 to read through 4/8/22 FMLA3 instead of 4/1/22 FMLA3.
10/28/21	4	Amend the leave of absence for #7202 to read through 4/8/22 FMLA3 instead of 4/1/22 FMLA3.
1/25/22	7/#3	Amend the start date for De Almeida, Lydia to read 4/11/22 instead of 3/28/22.
1/25/22	8	Approve the return of #7302 effective 4/11/22.
1/25/22	8	Approve the return of #7302 effective 4/11/22.
1/25/22	41/#2	Change to the amount to receive 50% of ROTC winter coaching stipend to read \$2,991.50.
3/31/22	32,33	Amend the time for the School 4 Title I Summer Slide Event from 3:15 pm-4:15 pm to read 3:30 pm-5:30 pm.

1) SICK 2) ACCUMULATED LEAVE 3) UNPAID

4. Approve the following staff for the 2021-2022 School Year as follows;

#	Name	Effective Date	Degree	Credited Exp./ Step	Assigned Subj. Area	Bldg./ Dept.	Spec. Prog. Or Budget	Total Annual Salary Rate
CERTIFIED								
1.	DiFirma, Tiziana	9/1/22	MA+30	10	Teacher of Italian	LHS	Budget /R	*\$69, 293
2.	Saavedera-Leonardis, Jessica	9/1/22	MA	5	Teacher of ESL	School 2	Budget /R	*\$59, 100
3.	Wrocenski, Anna	9/1/22	MA	3-4	Teacher of ESL	School 2	Budget /R	*\$58, 900
NON-CERTIFIED								
4.	Cada, Berzelius	5/2/22	MA	9	Network Engineer	IT Dept.	Budget /R	*\$74,386
5.	Carter-Blocker, LaKhia	5/2/22		1	Secretary	LHS	Budget /R	*\$47,070

4. Continued:

#	Name	Effective Date	Degree	Credited Exp./ Step	Assigned Subj. Area	Bldg./Dept.	Spec. Prog. Or Budget	Total Annual Salary Rate
6.	Angelo, Adriana	5/16/22		2	Secretary	LHS/Central Registration	Budget/R	\$48,104
7.	Royster, Whitney	5/16/22		1	Secretary	School 2	Budget/R	\$47,070
8.	Weathers, Phillip	5/2/22		9	Reporting Custodian	LHS	Budget/R	*\$63,351
9.	Gilwa, Bernadeta	5/16/22		1	Paraprofessional	School 2	Budget/R	*\$17,003
10.	Papoutsaki, Foteini	5/16/22		1	Paraprofessional	MMS	Budget/R	*\$17,003

*Subject to new salary schedule. Pending BOE approval.

5. Approve the following Leave(s) of Absence:

Employee ID#	Location	From	Through	Reason
8736 ¹	School 2	5/9/22	5/12/22	Medical
8736 ³	School 2	5/13/22	6/30/22	FMLA/FLA
6084 ¹	School 1	4/1/22	4/29/22	Medical
6013 ¹	School 9	4/8/22	4/26/22	Medical
6013 ³	School 9	4/27/22	5/20/22	Medical
7634 ¹	School 5	6/13/22	6/30/22	Medical
7634 ³	School 5	9/1/22	11/25/22	FMLA/FLA
7443 ¹	School 2	6/1/22	6/30/22	Medical
7443 ³	School 2	9/1/22	11/16/22	FMLA/FLA
6480 ³	MMS	4/4/22	UFN	FMLA
7505 ¹	LHS	9/1/22	9/9/22	Medical
7505 ³	LHS	9/12/22	12/2/22	FMLA/FLA
7038 ³	School 2	6/10/22	6/30/22	NJFLA
7828 ¹	School 2	5/16/22	6/30/22	Medical
7828 ³	School 2	9/1/22	11/25/22	FMLA/FLA
4770 ¹	School 8	5/12/22	6/3/22	Medical
6476 ^{1,2}	MMS	4/11/22	4/26/22	Medical
6476 ³	MMS	4/27/22	5/23/22	Medical

1). SICK 2). ACCUMULATED LEAVE 3). UNPAID

6. Reimburse staff listed for tuition costs in accordance with the associated agreement between the Linden Board of Education and the Linden Education Association:

#	Name	Location	Fall 2021 Tuition Reimbursement
1.	Campo, Nicole	Linden High School	\$1,374.00
2.	Colon, Darlene	School 4	\$2,502.57
3.	Del Prete, Joseph	Linden High School	\$2,748.00
4.	Fernandes, Jennifer	McManus	\$1,374.00
5.	Hooper, Arsola	McManus	\$2,748.00
6.	Kolibas, Diana	Linden High School	\$2,748.00
7.	Kissoon, Aaron	School 2	\$1,374.00
8.	Marchesi, Renata	AOE	\$2,748.00
9.	Miller, Gary	LAST	\$ 653.00
10.	Orejuela, Stephanie	Linden High School	\$2,748.00
11.	Rodriguez, Alice	School 2	\$2,748.00
12.	Sporer, Stephenie	School 9	\$ 749.00
13.	Sumrein, Faten	McManus	\$2,748.00
14.	Terwilliger, Kimberly	Soehl	\$ 395.00
15.	Thomas, Candace	School 5	\$2,748.00
16.	Walker, Kate Lynn	Linden High School	\$2,748.00

7. Approve the following Change of Degree as per negotiated contract as listed:

#	Name	Location	Degree	Difference
1.	Williams, Hadya	School 8	MA+30	\$4,641

8. Appoint the following staff to work before and after school duties/security for the 2021-2022 School Year. To be paid at the contractual rate.

#	Name	Location	Account
1.	Batz, Erin	LHS	11-140-100-101-00-000-00
2.	Bender, Jonathan	LHS	11-140-100-101-00-000-00
3.	Donegan, Patricia	LHS	11-140-100-101-00-000-00
4.	Gurski, Joseph	LHS	11-140-100-101-00-000-00
5.	Hu, Lin, Lin	LHS	11-140-100-101-00-000-00
6.	Lovensky, Lacey	LHS	11-190-100-106-00-002-00
7.	Massa, Allison	LHS	11-140-100-101-00-000-00
8.	Oreguela, Stephanie	LHS	11-140-100-101-00-000-00
9.	Peslak, Megan	LHS	11-140-100-101-00-000-00

9. Approve additional summer work from June 27, 2022 to August 31, 2022 for the following counselors at the per diem rate. Dates are to be mutually decided by Counselor and Principal or Supervisor. Acct. #11-000-218-104-00-001-00.

#	Name	Location	Number of Days
1.	Anderson, Teal	LHS	12
2.	Ceballo, Elba	LHS	12
3.	Golebiewski, Laura	LHS	12
4.	Meyers, Lauren	LHS	12
5.	Perez, Melissa	LHS	12
6.	Pellettiere, Laura	SMS	12
7.	Perez-Sudah, Natalie	SMS	12
8.	Ciprian, Ricardo	MMS	12
9.	Hasan, Denine	MMS	12

10. Approve additional summer work from June 27, 2022 to August 31, 2022 for the following Attendance Officers. Dates are to be mutually decided by Attendance Officer and Supervisor. Acct. #11-000-211-100-00-001-00.

#	Name	Location	Number of Days
1.	Horre, John	Full time per diem rate	12
2.	McCullough, Jim	Full time per diem rate	12
3.	Marcino, Matthew	Part time per diem rate	12
4.	Penn, John	Part time per diem rate	12

11. Appoint the following School Administrators to participate in the Linden Public Schools Job Fair from 8:00am – 1:00pm at Linden High School on 4/30/22. To be paid at the contractual rate of \$50/hr.

#	Name
1.	Louis, Annabell

12. Appoint the following teachers as Instructional Site Coordinators for the 2021-2022 Summer School Program at the locations listed effective 6/28/22-7/28/22. To be paid at the contractual rate of \$35/hr. Acct. #20-487-200-101-100-00-000-55.

#	Name	Location
1.	Campo, Nicole	LHS

12. Continued:

#	Name	Location
2.	Devaney, Ryan	LHS
3.	Monaco, Angelo	MMS
4.	Duckett, Edith	SMS
5.	Brunton, Laura	Elementary
6.	Dades, Nicole	Elementary

13. Appoint the following staff members for the 2021-2022 Summer School Program at the locations listed effective 6/28/22-7/28/22. To be paid at the contractual rate of \$31/hr. Acct #20-487-100-100-00-000-55.

#	Name	Location	Position
1.	Harper, James	One	Teacher
2.	Novak, Sarah		
3.	Attanasio, Nicole	Four	Teacher
4.	Carothers, Antoinette		Teacher
5.	DiVito, Gina		Teacher
6.	Freitas, Christopher		Teacher
7.	Spaziani, Shannon		Teacher
8.	Taylor-Peebles, Karen		Teacher
9.	Faust, Brandon	Four	Substitute Teacher
10.	Mendez, Josefina		Substitute Teacher
11.	Phalon, Jennifer		Substitute Teacher
12.	Schweikardt, Michele		Substitute Teacher
13.	Superior, Genevieve		Substitute Teacher
14.	Fernandez, Stephanie	Five	Teacher
15.	Conway, Danielle	Six	Teacher
16.	Kelly, Jessica		Teacher
17.	Kenney, Kelly		Teacher
18.	Stewart-Cuttita, Laura		Teacher
19.	Dolan, Joan	Eight	Teacher
20.	Finn, Jessica		Teacher

13. Continued:

#	Name	Location	Position
21.	Goncalves, Melanie		Teacher
22.	Hiltwein, Liana		Teacher
23.	Pierce, Nicole		Teacher
24.	Schweikardt, Amanda		Teacher
25.	Williams, Hadya		Teacher
26.	Baker, Mallory	Nine	Teacher
27.	DiPietro, Jill		Teacher
28.	Howlett, Lisa		Teacher
29.	Pereira, Amy		Teacher
30.	Pinheiro-Borges, Gabriella		Teacher
31.	Musto, William	Ten	Teacher
	Bachan, Menadaye		Teacher
	Beriont, Clinton		Teacher
	Carrion, Alicia		Teacher
	Edvalson, Sarah		Teacher
	Gurski, Joseph		Teacher
	Kirby, Starlette	LHS	Teacher
	Loverensky, Lacey		Substitute Teacher
	Mangel, Robert		Teacher
	Marchese, Renata		Teacher
	McDonald, Kimberly		Teacher
	McIntyre, June		Teacher
	Nacelus, Kebner		Teacher
	Orejuela, Stephanie		Teacher
	Pizzano, Cherie		Teacher
	Russo, Joseph		Teacher
	Warhaftig, Dana		Teacher
	Wozniak, Faith		Substitute Teacher

14. Appoint the following staff for the Tutoring Wrap Up/ Parent Meet and Greet at School #4 on 4/28/22 from 3:15 pm -4:15 pm. To be paid at the contractual rate of \$31/hr. Acct. #20-231-200-101-10-PIN-55-115 Title I. Acct. #20-231-200-101-10-000-55-115 Title I. Other expenses to be paid out of Title 1 accounts. Acct. #20-231-200-500-10-PIN-55-115. Acct. #20-231-200-500-10-000-55-115.

14. Continued:

#	Name	Position
1.	Arrieta, Jacqueline	Teacher
2.	Brunton, Laura	Teacher

15. Appoint the following teaching staff for the 21st CCLC Summer STEM Academy effective 6/27/22-8/30/22 at the 21st CCLC contractual rate of \$31 per hour. Account # 454-100-100-00-000-35-070, 456-100-100-00-001-35-070, 20-280-200-100-00-000-55, 20-280-100-100-00-000-55.

#	Name	Position
1.	Gabriel, Marvin	Teacher
2.	Marchica, Russell	Teacher

16. Appoint the following substitute teaching staff for the 21st CCLC Program effective 5/1/22-8/30/22 at the 21st CCLC contractual rate of \$31 per hour. Account # 454-100-100-00-000-35-070.

#	Name	Position
1.	Johnson, Lashonda	Substitute Teacher

17. Appoint the following staff for the 2021-2022 School Year to work at Schools 1,2,4,5,6,8,9,10 for the Before and After Care Programs at the rate of \$25.00 per hour. Paid from the Enterprise Fund as listed 60-930-320-100-00-000-02.

#	Name
1.	Azevedo, Debora
2.	Eason, Azanayhah

18. Approve the following Before/After Care staff for the 2021-2022 school year to be compensated for attending online virtual CPR training provided by the National CPR Foundation, at a rate of \$25/hour paid for by the Enterprise Fund account #60-930-320-100-00-000-02.

#	Name
1.	Isaac, Nadedgeda

19. Approve summer hours for the following staff members to refurbish Science kits for the 2022-2023 School Year. To be paid at the contractual rate. Cost not to exceed \$3,500.00. Acct. #11-190-100-106-00-000-60.

#	Name	Position	Hours
1.	Mitra-Magnan, Imelda	Full Time Paraprofessional	60
2.	Rhein, Sonia	Full Time Paraprofessional	60

20. Approve additional summer work for the following Social Worker at the per diem rate. Dates are to be mutually decided by Social Worker and Director. Acct. #11-000-219-104-00-000-33.

#	Name	Position	Number of Days
1.	William-Warner, Lisa	Academy of Excellence	20

21. Approve the following Nurses to oversee summer programs and summer registration as assigned at the per diem rate. Dates are to be mutually scheduled by the Nurse and the Director/Supervisor. Acct. #11-000-213-100-00-001-00.

#	Name
1.	DeAlmeida, Lydia
2.	Warner, James
3.	Opaola, Patience
4.	Aguirre, Didna
5.	Shahamat, Aliyyah
6.	Radil, Elizabeth
7.	Kolar, Rebecca
8.	Zatko, Stella
9.	DeMartinis, Colleen
10.	Bijukovic, Tomislav
11.	Jacobs, Nornette
12.	Smith, Diane
13.	McCarthy, Tara

22. Approve the following new job description:

#	Title
1.	Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Data & Assessment and Equity

23. Reappoint the following Paraprofessionals and Aides as Substitutes Teachers for the 2021-2022 School Year.

#	Name
1.	Dejesus, Jessica
2.	Janovcikova, Dominika

24. Appoint the following School Lunch Monitor to Substitute as a Part-Time Aide for the 2021-2022 School Year.

#	Name
1.	Dominguez, Andrea

25. Appoint the following Substitute Teachers for the 2021-2022 school year at the rates listed:

Days	Fully-Certified	Provisional/County Certified
1-25	150.00	125.00
25 +	175.00	135.00

Fully certified substitutes assigned to the same position will receive 1/200 of the BA step 1 on the L.E.A. salary guide commencing with the 11th day in that position. Credit will be given for the number of days worked in the district for the next school year if total exceeds 75. (\$267.75).

#	Name
1.	Lane, Lorelle
2.	Menendez, Giannella
3.	Shuford, Victoria
4.	Vaval, Serge

26. The following retirements are accepted with regret:

#	Name	Assignment	Location	Effective Date
1.	Hernandez, Sandra	Teacher of Spanish/Bilingual	School 2	7/1/22
2.	McFeeley, Norma	Custodian	School 5	7/1/22
3.	Ramirez, Rosa	Teacher of Gifted & Talented	Schools 1 and 6	7/1/22
4.	Kolar, Rebecca	School Nurse	School 8	7/1/22

WHEREAS, the above employees are retiring from active service in the public schools in Linden; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the members of the Board of Education of the City of Linden to express their appreciation for their loyal and unselfish service during those years; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the gratitude and best wishes of the members of the Board of Education of the City of Linden and hereby be tendered to the employees in acknowledgement of their service they so faithfully and conscientiously rendered, and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be spread on the minutes of the Board of Education.

27. Amend Board action on past Personnel Reports, as listed:

Date	Item #	Action
3/31/22	4/#8	Rescind the resignation of Velez, Mark, Chief Petty Officer/NJROTC.

28. Accept the resignation of the following staff:

#	Name	Position	Location	Effective Date
1.	Denize, Eunice	Part-time Bilingual School Aide	LHS	5/14/22
2.	Fekete, Jason	Vice Principal	LHS	7/1/22
3.	O'Hara, Thomas	Teacher of Instrumental Music	School 1 & 6	7/1/22

After Ms. Thomas made the motion to approve items 1 – 28, and it was seconded by Ms. Pino, Mr. De La Cruz made a motion to table items 2, 3 and 5 under motion #4 for further discussion, which was seconded by Ms. Pino. Discussion ensued. Dr. Hazelton said that we are in the middle of hiring season, so this is when you secure your best and brightest candidates. Dr. Baldwin interjected and said that it is our goal to comply with the New Jersey Department of Education servicing standards for ESL and provide two periods of support for each student in each grade level that requires English Language Learning support. The hiring of these two teachers is critical for our servicing plan. Also, these are shortage areas for us, so not hiring today, and putting these people off indefinitely, will allow them to seek employment elsewhere. She stressed that it’s important to be in compliance with the Department of Education and the servicing guidelines.

Ms. Guillaume asked if the board could go into Executive Session to discuss this but Mr. Rivas replied that the board already had a discussion at the Work Session. Mr. Garcia then clarified the term “tabling” as taking something off the agenda to be considered at another time.

MOTION to table item #4 (2,3 & 5):

Roll Call:

Board Member	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Pino		X	X		
Ms. Thomas			X		
Dr. Berghammer			X		
Ms. Cintron			X		
Mr. De La Cruz	X		X		
Mrs. Flemming			X		
Ms. Guillaume				X	
Mr. Martucci			X	#4 (5)	
Mr. Rivas			X		

Motion carried.

At this time, Mr. Rivas asked to table item #4 (6)

MOTION to table item #4 (6):

Roll Call:

Board Member	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Pino			X		
Ms. Thomas			X		
Dr. Berghammer			X		
Ms. Cintron			X		
Mr. De La Cruz		X	X		
Mrs. Flemming			X		
Ms. Guillaume				X	
Mr. Martucci				X	
Mr. Rivas	X		X		

Motion carried.

Ms. Guillaume made a Point of Order. She said that concerns were expressed, and some of them had been addressed and changes were made, but after things were discussed, teachers and secretaries were pulled, and then we question why we don't have staff. Mr. Rivas apologized again and said this question could not be answered in public, it would have to be answered in Executive Session.

Ms. Thomas then again made a motion to accept items 1 – 28, tabling items #4 (2, 3, 5 & 6), seconded by Mr. De La Cruz.

MOTIONS 1 – 28 excluding tabled items #4 (2, 3, 5 & 6):

Roll Call:

Board Member	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Pino			X		
Ms. Thomas	X		X	#4 (4, 8)	
Dr. Berghammer			X	#4 (4, 8)	
Ms. Cintron			X	#4 (4, 8)	
Mr. De La Cruz		X	X	#4 (4, 8)	
Mrs. Flemming			X	#4 (4, 8)	
Ms. Guillaume			X		
Mr. Martucci			X		
Mr. Rivas			X	#4 (4, 8)	

Motions 1 – 28, excluding tabled items #4 (2, 3, 5 & 6) carried. Item #4 (4, 8), failed.

The Finance Committee, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, present the following motions to the Linden Board of Education for approval:

1. BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)(4) the Linden Board of Education certifies that, after review of the Board Secretary’s and Treasurer’s monthly financial report (appropriation section), and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, 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(a)(1) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.
 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Linden Board of Education accepts the reports of the Secretary and the Treasurer, and certifies that they are in agreement for the month March, 2022. (Copies in the hands of Board members and on file in the Office of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary).
2. Authorize the Board Secretary to draw warrants due for the salaries and supplemental payroll for the month of April 2022.
3. Authorize the Board Secretary to draw warrants in the amounts specified in favor of the persons named: (as per list submitted in the files and bookkeeping journal – copy of which will become a part of these original minutes). (See attachment).
4. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-13.3 the Linden Board of Education approves the list of transfers and adjustments for the month of March, 2022. (Copies in the hands of Board members and on file in the Office of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary).
5. Student Activities Report (Linden High School) for the month of March, 2022. (Copies in the hands of Board Members and on file in the office of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary).
6. Amend Board action on past Finance Report, as listed:

Date	Item	Action
3/31/22	8	Change the amount of acceptance of funds from the NJ Association for the Education of Young Children Grant for the 2021-22 Week of the Young Child from \$1,573.90 to read \$200.00.

7. Accept funds in the amount of \$46,984.00 from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Homeless Children and Youth (HCY) II application for Fiscal Year 2022 and join the consortium in order to utilize the funds for homeless students in the Linden Public School District.

8. Accept funds in the amount of \$1,967.72 from the State of New Jersey Department of Education, Office of Special Education, Post-School Outcome Study.
9. Accept funds in the amount of \$31.02 from Ohiopyle Prints, Inc., Ohiopyle, PA, representing a donation or royalty for apparel and accessories bearing the Linden School logo that were sold at local retailers
10. Approve a contract in the amount of \$75,000.00 with Trinitas Healthcare Corporation Children's Therapy Services, Springfield, New Jersey, for Occupational Therapy for the period September 2022 through June 2023. Account No. 20-218-100-321-03-000-34.
11. Approve a contract in the amount of \$28,500.00 with Trinitas Regional Medical Center, Elizabeth, New Jersey, for consultations with a behaviorist, for the period September 2022 through June 2023. Account No. 20-218-200-321-03-000-34.
12. Approve the purchase of a 2022 Ford Transit Connect Van from Beyer Ford, Morristown, NJ, in the amount of \$31,489.84, in accordance with Educational Services Commission of NJ Co-Op #65MCECCPS – ESCNJ 20/21-09.
13. Approve the purchase of a 2022 Ford F-450 truck from Beyer Ford, Morristown, NJ, in the amount of \$66,388.50, State Contract #A88214.
14. Be it resolved that the Linden Board of Education "SFA" approves the renewal of the Food Service Management contract with The Pomptonian, Inc. "FSMC" for the food service operation for 2022-2023.

The FSMC shall receive, in addition to the costs of operation, an administrative/management fee of \$97,705.00 to compensate the FSMC for administrative and management costs. This fee shall be billed in 10 monthly installments of \$9,770.50 per month as a cost of operation. The SFA guarantees the payment of such costs and fee to the FSMC.

15. Motion to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Linden Board of Education has determined that it requires Architect of Record services for current and future projects;

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the consulting and advisory services of a full service architectural firm are needed;

WHEREAS, the Board, pursuant to its authority under N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5(a)(1) may negotiate and award this contract for professional services without the necessity of public advertising for bids.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does approve the architectural firm of DiCara Rubino, Wayne, NJ, as Board Architect of Record for current and future architectural services for the period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

15. Continued:

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board shall forthwith cause to be printed once, in an official newspaper, a brief notice stating the nature, duration, service and amount of the contract, and that the resolution and contract are on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the Board.

16. Approve a contract not to exceed \$3,000.00 with Michelle Lawton, BCBA, Lake Hopatcong, NJ, for the evaluations of the Autistic Programs in the district.
17. Approve the following renewal routes for student transportation for the 2022-2023 school year:
- a) 2022-2023 School Transportation Renewal Contracts – Regular and Special Education:

Company	Route	Route Cost Per Diem 22-23	Aide Cost Per Diem 22-23	TOTAL 22-23
J&J Transportation	L-MED/TOP	\$346.24	\$58.62	\$404.86

b) 2022-2023 Parent Transportation Route – Special Education

Parent	Route	Per Diem Cost 22/23	Not to Exceed
BG	SEPA-6	\$71.08	\$14,927.27
GW	SEPA-8	\$60.22	\$12,645.91

c) 2022 Extended School Year Transportation – Special Education

Company	Route	Route Cost Per Diem 2022	Aide Cost Per Diem 2022	TOTAL 2022
J & J Transp.	ESY-1	\$176.42	BOE Aide	\$173.11
J & J Transp.	ESY-2	\$176.42	BOE Aide	\$173.11
J & J Transp.	ESY-3	\$176.42	\$54.38	\$230.80
J & J Transp.	ESY-4	\$176.42	\$54.38	\$230.80
J & J Transp.	ESY-5	\$176.42	\$54.38	\$230.80
J & J Transp.	ESY-6	\$224.44	\$60.22	\$284.66
J & J Transp.	ESY-7	\$176.42	\$54.38	\$230.80
J & J Transp.	ESY-L-MED	\$224.54	BOE Aide	\$224.54

18. Approve the enrollment of the following students for the 2022-2023 school year, eligible on a tuition basis under policy #5118, pending enrollment figures:

Student	Placement
C.D.	Pre-K
Z.I.	Kindergarten
N.G.D.	Pre-K

19. Declare the following as surplus equipment (obsolete and/or unusable) to be disposed of in accordance with District Policy 3260 as follows:

Location	Quantity	Description/Model No.	Serial No./BOE Tag
School #4	1	Epson Bright Link 585Wi Projector	UHVK4X00980 / 003721
	1	Epson Bright Link 485Wi Projector	QU7F320924L / 003674
	1	Epson Bright Link 485Wi Projector	QU7F3Z0733L / 003675
	3	Whiteboards	None

20. Approve the following bid as listed:

Student Transportation Services – School Year 2022-2023
Bid Opening Date: April 20, 2022

Vendor	Route Number	Per Diem Amount	Inc./Dec. Adjustment	Aide Cost Per Diem	Amount
Villani	VT-1	\$494.00	\$0.01	\$88.00	\$582.00
	VT-3	\$494.00	\$0.01	\$88.00	\$582.00
	HS-1C/SE-2C	\$403.00	\$0.01	\$88.00	\$491.00
	HS-1D/SE-1D	\$403.00	\$0.01	\$88.00	\$491.00
	HS-1G/SE-2E	\$403.00	\$0.01	\$88.00	\$491.00
	HS-2B/BIL-1	\$416.00	\$0.01	\$88.00	\$504.00
	HS-2C/BIL-3	\$416.00	\$0.01	\$88.00	\$504.00
	HS-2D/2-3	\$403.00	\$0.01	\$88.00	\$491.00
	MM-1/SE-1	\$494.00	\$0.01	\$88.00	\$582.00
	MM-2/BIL-2	\$494.00	\$0.01	\$88.00	\$582.00
	MM-4/SE-1C	\$494.00	\$0.01	\$88.00	\$582.00
	MM-5/SE-2B	\$494.00	\$0.01	\$88.00	\$582.00
	MM-7/SE-2F	\$494.00	\$0.01	\$88.00	\$582.00
SM-1/SE-2	\$331.33	\$0.01	\$88.00	\$419.19	

20. Continued:

Vendor	Route Number	Per Diem Amount	Inc./Dec. Adjustment	Aide Cost Per Diem	Amount
Villani	SM-2/2-5	\$416.00	\$0.01	\$88.00	\$504.00
	SM-3/SE-2D	\$416.00	\$0.01	\$88.00	\$504.00
	SE-10	\$392.00	\$0.01	\$88.00	\$480.00
	SE-11	\$392.00	\$0.01	\$88.00	\$480.00
	SE-11M	\$392.00	\$0.01	\$88.00	\$480.00
	SE-12	\$392.00	\$0.01	\$88.00	\$480.00
	SE-12A	\$392.00	\$0.01	\$88.00	\$480.00
	SE-13	\$392.00	\$0.01	\$88.00	\$480.00
Dapper Bus Company	HS-1E/2-1	\$460.10	\$2.50	\$103.80	\$ 563.90
	HS-1F/2-2	\$472.50	\$2.50	\$108.00	\$580.50
	HS-2E/2-4	\$522.80	\$2.50	\$103.80	\$626.60
	MM-3/SE-1B	\$458.50	\$2.50	\$108.00	\$566.50
	MM-6/SE-1A	\$483.10	\$2.50	\$108.00	\$591.10
	SM-2A/SE-2A	\$493.50	\$2.50	\$118.80	\$393.84
	SE-8	\$463.70	\$2.50	\$103.80	\$567.50
	SE-8A	\$487.70	\$2.50	\$103.80	\$591.50
First Student	VT-2	\$525.00	\$1.00	\$120.00	\$645.00
Road To Success	HS-1SUM	\$305.00	\$0.99	\$55.00	\$360.00
	MM-1SUM	\$309.00	\$0.99	\$55.00	\$364.00
	MM-2SUM	\$310.00	\$0.99	\$55.00	\$365.00
	SE-1SUM	\$330.00	\$0.99	\$55.00	\$385.00
	SM-1SUM	\$305.00	\$0.99	\$55.00	\$360.00
	2-1SUM	\$310.00	\$0.99	\$55.00	\$365.00
	2-2SUM	\$325.00	\$0.99	\$55.00	\$380.00
Villani	SUMMER-1	\$336.00	\$0.01	\$88.00	\$424.00

20. Continued:

FIELD TRIPS					
Vendor	Route Number	Per Diem Amount	Inc./Dec. Adjustment	Parking And Tolls	Amount
Villani	FT-1	\$88.00	N/A	N/A	\$88.00
	FT-1A	\$90.00	N/A	N/A	\$90.00
	FT-2	\$100.00	N/A	N/A	\$100.00
	FT-2A	\$110.00	N/A	N/A	\$110.00
	FT-3	\$120.00	N/A	N/A	\$120.00
	FT-3A	\$125.00	N/A	N/A	\$125.00
	FT-4	\$130.00	N/A	N/A	\$130.00
	FT-4A	\$150.00	N/A	N/A	\$150.00
	FT-7	\$200.00	N/A	Up to \$100/bus	\$200.00
	FT-7A	\$250.00	N/A	Up to \$100/bus	\$250.00
	FT-8	\$300.00	6hr min	Up to \$100/bus	\$300.00
	FT-9	\$300.00	N/A	Up to \$100/bus	\$300.00
	FT-9A	\$350.00	N/A	Up to \$100/bus	\$350.00
	FT-10	\$400.00	6hr min	Up to \$100/bus	\$400.00
	FT-11 Hourly van Rate without lift	\$200.00	N/A	N/A	\$200.00
	FT-11A Hourly van Rate without lift	\$200.00	N/A	N/A	\$200.00
Road To Success	FT-5	\$155.00	N/A	N/A	\$155.00
	FT-5A	\$155.00	N/A	N/A	\$155.00
	FT-6	\$135.00	N/A	N/A	\$135.00
	FT-6A	\$155.00	N/A	\$55.00	\$155.00

20. Continued:

TEAMS					
Villani	SECTION 1 - Away Games 4HRS PER BUS TEAM EVENT	\$591.00	\$0.01	\$95.00 (After 4hrs)	\$591.00
	SECTION 2 Intracity (Drop & Pick)	\$426.00	\$0.01	N/A	\$426.00
	SECTION 3 Swimming	\$426.00	\$0.01	N/A	\$426.00
Bids Mailed – 9; Bids Received – 5; Observed – 4					

21. Accept funds in the total amount of \$314,596.26 from New Jersey Schools Insurance Group, Mount Laurel, NJ, in payment of claims made due to Hurricane Ida storm damage, September 2021, as follows:

Location	Amount
School #4	\$223,999.15
Linden High School	\$ 74,554.00
Linden Academy Building	\$ 16,043.11
TOTAL:	\$314,596.26

After the motion was made by Mrs. Flemming and seconded by Ms. Thomas, Ms. Cintron asked to table items 12 and 13. Roll call to table these items was taken as follows:

Roll Call:

Board Member	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Pino		X	X		
Ms. Thomas			X		
Dr. Berghammer			X		
Ms. Cintron	X		X		
Mr. De La Cruz			X		
Mrs. Flemming			X		
Ms. Guillaume				X	
Mr. Martucci			X		
Mr. Rivas			X		

Motions 12 and 13 tabled.

Mrs. Flemming then requested that motions 1 – 11 and 14 – 21 be approved, seconded by Mrs. Pino.

Before voting, Mr. Rivas commented on item #20, the transportation bid. He said that item #20 has been an item that has created a lot of conversation among not only board members, but many of the staff who is concerned about the transportation of the children. His responsibility as a board member are not only the children of the city, but his family and his constituents. If anyone had a chance to be part of the Work Session, he created a lot of questions regarding this item because he understood that there were better ways, perhaps, to achieve a better result to get this item to be accomplished, and the reason being is one of the things that he said, is that we need to be financially responsible. Board members need to ask questions and when they ask questions and they receive a straight answer, answers that are good answers given to a question, it makes it easy for everyone to make intelligent and proper decisions. Unfortunately, due to many of the conversations that were had, he said he didn't want to call it discussions, many of these answers may have not been provided timely to them. When they are asked to make decisions, they need to have information and they need to know exactly what it is. He said there is only one time for them learn more than anything, and that is when they are at the board table and that's something that many people don't understand. But, before they meet monthly, they are board members out there. They're board members 24/7, 365 days and with these particular roles and responsibilities, they have the opportunity to ask questions any time they feel like it, and they need to know information about our district. He said he has been one of the biggest critics about this process, but once he got information, and once he got to understand information, it's easier for people to understand. Information is power. Not only based on his roles and responsibilities, he has spent 48 hours doing research, working, learning and self-educating himself to try to not only apply a good concept of what they're deciding, but only to make sure he protects not only the children of the city but the finances and the taxpayers' money. Being said that, he admitted that after getting information, he changed his mind. He thinks that this is the best prices that we can get at this time. We understand that things have changed and prices have gone up. The last thing that he wants is for each one of the citizens of Linden, fathers, mothers, hard workers, is to pay the consequences of what a \$2.5 million increase in routes of transportation could mean to our budget. Budget is also a sensitive discussion this board is going to have within the following days. With that said, being fiscally responsible is making hard decisions, making tough decisions, and sometimes making decisions that our citizens may not understand, because as we have said before, there are things that we can't comment on in public, and not knowing everything, people can only make assumptions of what the things really are. With the discussion of this is that many of you have seen that he has put pushback on this in the Work Session. Today he comes humble to say that based on his research, based on his self-educating, thank you, and thank you for the information he has received. It is fair to say that after so much back-and-forth, he was able to receive the information that would allow him to make a better understanding of things. He also thanked a fellow board member, here, present, who had the opportunity to make time to have a conversation with him, he has changed his mind.

MOTIONS 1 – 11 and 14 – 21:

Roll Call:

Board Member	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Pino			X	14, 15	
Ms. Thomas		X	X	14, 15	
Dr. Berghammer			X	14, 15	
Ms. Cintron			X	14, 15	
Mr. De La Cruz			X	14, 15	
Mrs. Flemming	X		X	14, 15	
Ms. Guillaume			X		
Mr. Martucci			X		
Mr. Rivas			X	14, 15	

Motions 1 – 11 and 16 – 21 carried. Motions 14 and 15 failed.

The Buildings, Grounds and Security Committee, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, present the following motions to the Linden Board of Education for approval:

1. Amend Board Action on past Buildings, Grounds and Security Reports:

Date	Item	Action
11/23/21	3	Amend the date for “Beat the Summer Slide” FAST event at School No. 4 from Thursday, May 19, 2022 to Wednesday, May 25, 2022.
11/23/21	5	Amend the date for School No. 9 Spring Clothing Drive to May 14, 2022 from 10:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.

2. Use of facilities at no charge as requested by Michael Walters, Acting Principal, School No. 1:

Activity/Location	Day and Time	Date
<u>PTA Under the Stars Movie Night</u> Front Lawn	Friday 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.	May 6, 2022
<u>PTA Meeting</u> Cafeteria	Wednesday 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.	May 11, 2022
<u>PTA Parent’s Night Out</u> Gymnasium	Friday 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.	May 20, 2022

**Rain Date 5/7/2022*

3. Use of facilities at no charge as requested by Dr. Suzanne Olivero, Principal, School No. 4:

Activity/Location	Day and Time	Date
<u>PTO Bingo Night</u> Cafeteria	Friday 6:00 p.m.-9:00p.m.	May 20, 2022

4. Use of facilities at no charge as requested by Meredith Horvath, President, School No 9 PTA:

Activity/Location	Day and Time	Date
<u>Breakfast with Buddies</u> Lot & Lawn	Friday 8:00 a.m.-8:40 a.m.	June 3, 2022

5. Use of facilities at no charge as requested by Arlene Ribeiro, President, School No. 10 PTA:

Activity/Location	Day and Time	Date
<u>PTA Family Movie Night</u> Outside Rear Lawn, Gymnasium & Cafeteria	Friday 5:00 p.m. -10:00 p.m.	May 6, 2022*
<u>PTA Designer Bag Bingo</u> Gymnasium & Cafeteria	Friday 5:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.	May 20, 2022
<u>PTA 5th Grade Celebration Night</u> Rear Playground & Gymnasium	Friday 5:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.	June 3, 2022
<u>PTA Multicultural Night</u> Gymnasium, Cafeteria & Rear Playground	Monday 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.	June 6, 2022

*Rain Date 5/13/2022

6. Use of facilities at a service charge (custodial overtime for the months of July and August) as requested by Frederick Hayes and Robert Lee Dixie, Coaches, Hoop Kings:

Activity/Location	Day and Time	Date
<u>The Hoop Kings Basketball Program</u> School No. 2 Gymnasium	Tuesday-Thursday 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.	<u>2022</u> May 4,10,11,17,18,19,24,25, 26,31 June 1,8,14,15,21,22,28,29 July 5,6,7,19,20,26,28 August 2,3,9,10,16,17

7. Use of facilities at no charge as requested by Andy Krygowski, President, Polish American Sports Association:

Activity/Location	Day and Time	Date
<u>5K Race Staging Area</u> School No. 1 Parking Lot & Playground	Sunday 7:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.	May 22, 2022

MOTIONS 1 – 7:

Roll Call:

Board Member	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Pino			X		
Ms. Thomas		X	X		
Dr. Berghammer			X		
Ms. Cintron			X		
Mr. De La Cruz	X		X		
Mrs. Flemming			X		
Ms. Guillaume			X		
Mr. Martucci			X		
Mr. Rivas			X		

Motions 1 – 7 carried.

The Planning and Policy Committee, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, presents the following motion to the Linden Board of Education for approval:

1. First Reading:

Policy Number	Title
3320	Purchasing Procedures
5131	Conduct and Discipline

MOTION 1:

Roll Call:

Board Member	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Pino			X		
Ms. Thomas	X		X		
Dr. Berghammer			X		
Ms. Cintron			X		
Mr. De La Cruz			X		
Mrs. Flemming			X		
Ms. Guillaume				X	
Mr. Martucci				X	
Mr. Rivas		X	X		

Motion 1 carried.

At 8:10 p.m., Mr. De La Cruz made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the Attorney Report, seconded by Dr. Berghammer.

Roll Call:

Board Member	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Pino			X		
Ms. Thomas			X		
Dr. Berghammer		X	X		
Ms. Cintron			X		
Mr. De La Cruz	X		X		
Mrs. Flemming			X		
Ms. Guillaume			X		
Mr. Martucci			X		
Mr. Rivas			X		

Motion carried.

There being no further business to discuss in Executive Session, Mr. De La Cruz made a motion to return to Public Session seconded by Ms. Thomas.

At 9:10 p.m., Mr. De La Cruz made a motion to reopen the Public Session, seconded by Ms. Thomas. Voice vote was unanimous.

The Attorney Committee, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, presents the following motion to the Linden Board of Education for approval:

1. Level III Hearing of Grievance #2-21/22 between the Linden Education Association and the Linden Board of Education regarding Article XXX, 2 providing tuition reimbursement and lateral salary guide movement for coursework taken through programs offered only online.

The grievance hearing was held in Executive Session. The matter was not voted on. Attorney, Joseph Garcia, asked the board for a motion to vote on item #2.

2. WHEREAS, the Linden Board of Education requires the professional service of legal counsel to conduct a workplace investigation, and
 WHEREAS, funds are available for this purpose, and
 WHEREAS, the Public School Contracts Law (NJSA 18A:18A-1 et seq.) permits the award of contracts without competitive bids for Professional Services that require licensing and are regulated by law, and

2. Continued:

WHEREAS, the Public School Contracts Law requires that the Board of Education adopt a resolution awarding such contracts at a public meeting.

Now Be It Resolved, by the Linden Board of Education, as follows:

- a) The appointment of O’Toole Scrivo, LLC, 14 Village Park Road, Cedar Grove , NJ 07009, as special counsel at a blended rate of \$200 per hour to conduct a workplace investigation for the Board.
- b) This contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a "Professional Service" under the provisions of the Public School Contracts Law because Legal Services are a recognized profession licensed and regulated by law.

MOTION 2:

Roll Call:

Board Member	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Pino		X	X		
Ms. Thomas			X		
Dr. Berghammer			X		
Ms. Cintron			X		
Mr. De La Cruz	X		X		
Mrs. Flemming			X		
Ms. Guillaume			X		
Mr. Martucci			X		
Mr. Rivas			X		

Motion 2 carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Kevin Thurston, LASA President
57 Roosevelt Avenue
Jersey City, NJ

LASA members were informed that a reorganization plan was being planned. All LASA members were RICE'd. Twice during tonight's session, the reorganization word was mentioned, yet no further information was given.

Tracey Birch
625 Beechwood Road

Mrs. Birch asked the board to stop saying they have to clean up the last board's mess to justify the decisions they are making now.

A board member continues to blame the teachers that are leaving on COVID and he's tired of hearing how they're being blamed for it

She understands their concern that every teacher is not offered the opportunity for professional development. She said the board needs to understand the process and how teachers are chosen for professional development. She wanted to know which board members went out of state for training for \$5,000.00. She asked if they came back and shared their knowledge? She asked that the board hold themselves to the same standards that they hold our teachers and staff.

She thanked the board for taking the time to look into the quality of food for our children. The children don't deserve the "garbage" that they're given every day at lunch.

It is unfortunate that Greg Martucci has not stepped down. He continues to make a mockery of this district. He takes off one meeting, comes to one meeting, takes off two meetings. Every month he plays games with our teachers and our staff and this board but yet he feels he still has the right to comment on what takes place in this district as a board member, and that's atrocious. She said she's sorry they all had to deal with his nonsense from Tuesday, but she is more sorry that she wasn't here to see it for herself. He received the same treatment that he gave to her as a sitting board member; a board member who valued this district and didn't have a hidden agenda or malice toward the employees here, over something that he did in his past.

Congratulations to all teachers and staff here tonight. She said they deserve to be acknowledged, valued and praised. Thank you all for what you do every day.

She asked Dr. Baldwin if she has conducted at least one exit interview from the countless numbers of teachers and staff we are losing to find out why they're really leaving?

Claudia Dolan, LEA V.P.
1309 Thomas Avenue
North Brunswick, NJ

She thanked the board for ratifying the contract. She spoke about the tabling of new hires. In tabling these hires, buildings and students are going without. You discussed reorganization without any follow-up, but use that to support why you are not hiring; however, you approved an additional Assistant Superintendent. You should reflect on your choices and how it will affect those that are in the buildings.

Kim Kefalas, Technology Teacher
62 Stanton Street
Clark, NJ

Thanked the board for approving her professional development and said she will also be presenting staff professional development during the summer.

Rob Mangel, LEA President
18 Trinity Place
Montclair, NJ

He echoed what Ms. Dolan, LEA Vice President, said. The needs of our students are now. He asked the board to be transparent. We may not always agree with the choices of the board, but at least explain these choices. It's hard to share a pathway forward when we don't know what the pathway forward is. He said it is a frustrating evening to watch new hires being voted down and for reasons that are vague. Please be transparent and open.

NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mr. Rivas asked for the budget hearing to be reset for May 9, 2022.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Ms. Thomas congratulated all of the awardees, teachers and staff. Thank you to Ms. Dolan. She made virtual learning effortless for her son and other students. Congratulations to Ms. Kohler on her retirement. Happy Administrators Week and Happy Teachers Appreciation Week.

Ms. Pino congratulated the teachers on their new contract. It takes a village to make everything happen. She said maybe we need to do a survey to find out why all of the teachers are leaving.

Dr. Berghammer said as a parent and resident of Linden, she wants to reach out and let everyone know that they care. A month ago, she sat here and celebrated an athlete, and now she sits here and prays for that athlete and his family. This should not be happening. She said the board cares. They, too, have children in K-12 and are working to help fix the school violence problem. She would like to see social and emotional skills be a part of every homework assignment. Because of the student demographic, a social and emotional program should focus on equity, justice, cultural competence and cultural diversity. She thinks SEL days are a great idea. She showed her appreciation for the Educators and Support Staff of the Year along with the retirees. She gave a shout out to the Music Department and the students. No child should be afraid to attend school and no parent should be scared to send their child to school. Additionally, no teacher should be afraid of their student. School should be a safe place for everyone.

Ms. Guillaume also congratulated the retirees and awardees. It saddens her to see so many of our staff members leaving when it was all of them who inspired her to pursue education. Happy Administrative Professionals Day. Thank you for your commitment to the district.

Mrs. Flemming thanked everyone for coming, including the Mayor. Happy Administrators Day. Thank you for all that you do. Congratulations to the teachers and the kids.

Mr. Martucci said he was good and thanked everyone for coming. He congratulated Dr. B.

Mr. De La Cruz congratulated the Teachers and Aides of the Year. He dedicated the song "Hero" by Mariah Carey to everybody throughout the district. He also congratulated the retirees.

Mr. Rivas said the board members who worked on the negotiations committee to settle the LEA contract are proud of what they accomplished. We do the best we can 365 days a year. He congratulated the Teachers of the Year and the support staff. Teacher Appreciation Day should be every day. He said he enjoys the public comment portion of board meetings the most because the board likes to know what you think and know how you're holding them accountable. The board can continue to do their best and have a clear conscience knowing they are doing it for the benefit of the children, parents and teachers and staff. He is proud to be a Hispanic member of the community. Although he was not born and raised here, he is getting to be a part of the community of Linden. He is proud to say he has not only adopted this country but also the community where he lives. He said he will definitely, personally, not as a board member, do anything possible out there to support his Hispanic community to succeed. His role is not only about the Spanish community, it's about every community in the City of Linden and that is why he has to make tough decisions to make sure that every community in the City of Linden will be respected, recognized and represented. Once again, he said there are things the board cannot share, but the only thing they can say is to give them an opportunity and keep holding them accountable, and do not stop giving comments which are warranted for them to hear because that's the only way you can make sure the board pays attention to everything that they do.

Ms. Cintron echoed other board members and said she would like to congratulate for the music education, Matthew Lorenzetti, the retirees, and the Teachers of the Year as well. She said she understands everyone’s frustration with the board’s transparency, but there are reasons. Happy Professional Administrator Week and she looks forward to celebrating Teacher Appreciation Week.

There being no further business to discuss, Ms. Cintron made a motion to adjourn at 9:45 p.m., seconded by Mr. De La Cruz.

Roll Call:

Board Member	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Pino			X		
Ms. Thomas			X		
Dr. Berghammer			X		
Ms. Cintron	X		X		
Mr. De La Cruz		X	X		
Mrs. Flemming			X		
Ms. Guillaume			X		
Mr. Martucci			X		
Mr. Rivas			X		

Motion carried.

Kathleen A. Gaylord
Business Administrator/Board Secretary