

Regular Meeting  
South Orange-Maplewood  
Board of Education  
January 25, 2021

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of South Orange-Maplewood was held using the online video conference platform on January 25, 2021.

Board President Thair Joshua called the meeting to order at 7:39 p.m.

Adequate written notice of this meeting of the South Orange-Maplewood Board of Education was sent to the Township and Village Clerks, The Star Ledger, the News Record, TAPintoSOMA.net, villagegreennj.com and the District website.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Motion made by Board President Joshua to allow distance participation in our monthly Regular Board Meeting during the COVID-19 emergency.

Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

ROLL CALL: Present: Board Member Bergin, Board Member Joshua,  
Board Member Maini, Board Member Malespina,  
Board Member Siders, Board Member Winkfield, Board  
Member Wright, Board Member Zubieta, Student Rep.  
McCray

Absent: Board Member Cuttle (technical difficulties)

*EIGHT VOTING MEMBERS AND ONE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT*

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE UPDATE - *Jakhi McCray*

Student Representative McCray provided an update on the following:

- Columbia High School 9<sup>th</sup> grade students who attended hybrid instruction reported issues with Wi-Fi. Some students had difficulty connecting to their classes and teachers reported streaming issues.
- CHS hosted Grads Return on Friday, January 22nd. Students were sent a form that had various sessions in which former CHS students talked about topics such as: Choosing a College Major, Reducing Anxiety During the College Process, Jobs and Internships, and Education. The event was received well by students, and there were no issues that haven't already been addressed by Mr. Sanchez.

***Board Member Cuttle Joined the meeting at 7:43 p.m.  
Nine Voting Members and One Student Representative Present***

RECOGNITIONS - *Jakhi McCray*

Student Recognitions:

NAME/SCHOOL	RECOGNITION
CHS Cross Country Team	<p>Congratulations to members of the CHS cross country girls and boys teams for their placement in the 2020 SEC (Super Essex Conference) All Conference Cross Country Teams for the American Division. Also, congratulations to the Boys Varsity Cross Country for taking 3<sup>rd</sup> place in state sectionals. The Super Essex conference is a conference comprised of all the Essex county schools. It is broken into 3 divisions, of which American the one Columbia belongs to is the strongest. Announcements were made in late December.</p> <p>2020 SEC All Conference Cross Country Team Placements:</p> <p><u>Girls All Conference Cross-Country</u></p> <p><i>First Team:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Kirah Tianga, CHS Senior, 1st place in conference</li> <li>● Svea Wickelgren, CHS Senior, 6th place in conference</li> </ul> <p><i>Second Team:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Mae Dowling, 10<sup>th</sup> place</li> </ul> <p><u>Boys All Conference Cross-Country Team</u></p> <p><i>First Team:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Javier Casella, CHS Junior, 4<sup>th</sup> place in conference</li> <li>● Aaron Glassman, CHS Junior, 7<sup>th</sup> place in conference</li> <li>● Nate Lindstrom, CHS Junior, 11<sup>th</sup> place in conference</li> </ul> <p><i>Second Team:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Daniel Flynn, CHS Senior &amp; Team Captain, 5<sup>th</sup> place in conference</li> <li>● William Griffith, CHS Senior, 7<sup>th</sup> place in conference</li> </ul> <p><u>Boys Varsity Cross Country Team Members (3<sup>rd</sup> place state sectionals)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Daniel Butkus, CHS Sophomore</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Joshua Lee, CHS Senior</li> <li>● Nate Lindstrom, CHS Junior</li> <li>● Aaron Glassman, CHS Junior</li> <li>● Javier Glassman, CHS Junior</li> <li>● Daniel Flynn, CHS Senior</li> <li>● William Griffith, CHS Senior</li> </ul> <p>Coaches: Chris Faraone and Taylor Iraggi</p>
<p>CHS: Sophia Plaitakis Avani Mitra</p>	<p>The Art Administrators of New Jersey (AANJ) is presented the 2021 Emerging Artists Virtual Awards Ceremony on Sunday, January 24. Two Columbia High School photography students were featured at the event, Sophia Plaitakis &amp; Avani Mitra.</p> <p>This is the thirty third annual Emerging Artist Exhibit sponsored by the Art Administrators of New Jersey (AANJ). This exhibit presents art work produced by students who are studying art in high schools throughout the State of New Jersey.</p> <p>The works are judged and Awards of Merit and Honorable Mention are presented to student artists. Award recipients are eligible to submit a portfolio of images and compete in the Art Administrators' Achievement Award program in which one student will be selected to receive an additional cash recognition and a Governor's Award in the spring. This year's show included work from twenty-eight students from twenty-one high schools across the state.</p>

Staff:

NAME/SCHOOL	RECOGNITION
<p>Maplewood Middle School:  Dara Gronau, Principal</p>	<p>Dara Gronau, Principal of Maplewood Middle School applied for and was awarded a \$10,000, Roberts Award grant through the New Leaders organization to support equity and inclusion. Principal Gronau's is a New Leaders alumni and her grant project will focus on literacy for and celebration of Black girls.</p> <p>New Leaders, mission is to ensure high academic achievement for all children, especially students in poverty and students of color, by developing transformational school leaders and advancing the policies and practices that allow great leaders to succeed.</p>

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board President Maini declared the minutes of the Executive and Public Sessions of the December 14, 2020 Regular Meeting and January 6, 2021 Reorganizational Meeting approved as presented.

## BOARD PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

The School Board meeting is a business meeting in public not a meeting with the public. Oftentimes it may appear to members of our audience that the Board of Education takes action with very little comment and in many cases a unanimous vote. Before a matter is placed on the agenda at a public meeting, the Administration has thoroughly reviewed the matter with the Superintendent of Schools/Chief School Administrator (CSA). If the Superintendent of Schools/Chief School Administrator is satisfied that the matter is ready to be presented to the Board of Education, it is then referred to the appropriate Board Committee. The Members of the Board Committee work with Administration and the Superintendent to assure that the members fully understand the matter. After the committee discusses the matter, it is presented to the full Board for discussion before any action is taken. Only then, is it placed on the agenda for action at a public meeting.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE - *Dr. Ronald G. Taylor*

Dr. Taylor congratulated and welcomed new Board Members and Executive Committee members.

The first update of the evening is part of our publicly acknowledged settlement with Black Parents Workshop (BPW). For those who may not be aware of the litigation that took place with BPW, our settlement speaks to us doing things publicly and transparently and sharing information. Each month we display the disciplinary action that takes place in our District regarding our students on our websites and social media platforms. Also, as part of the settlement, by January 31 we will post some enrollment data that speaks to the enrollment in our high-level courses in our district. We do not want to just post this information for compliance we want to share this information. Dr. Perez, Assistant Superintendent for Access and Equity will walk us through a brief overview of the data that we have collected. We will be discussing this information deeper during our upcoming board retreat February 8 because it connects to some of our district goals and the district goal update will take place February 8 as well.

## BLACK PARENTS WORKSHOP UPDATE - *Dr. Gretel Perez, Asst. Superintendent*

Dr. Gretel Perez, Assistant Superintendent of Access & Equity presented an update on SOMSD enrollment data for grades 6-12 for the 2020-2021 school year. As required by the settlement, by January 31st of each year, the District will prepare a written report of course enrollments by race and gender for all courses in grades 6-8 and 9-12 for each school and, to the extent permitted by federal and state student data privacy laws concerning data de-identification, will publicize the report on the District website

and through social media. This obligation shall remain in effect for three school years following the expiration of the monitor's term, or following the monitor's certification of compliance as set forth in paragraph six (6), whichever comes first.

PERKINS AUDIT FINDINGS - *Paul Roth, Business Administrator*

Mr. Paul Roth, Business Administrator presented the SOMSD 2018-2019 Carl D. Perkins Grant Audit findings and recommendations, as required by the New Jersey Department of Education.

PRELIMINARY BUDGET UPDATE 2021-2022 -*Paul Roth, Business Administrator*

Mr. Roth presented the Preliminary Budget Update 2021-2022 detailing the following:

- Budget Development Process
  - Estimate Revenue (January)
  - Calculate Maximum Local Tax Levy (Capped at 2%)
  - Estimate state & federal aid
  - Identify other sources of revenue (Interest on Bond Proceeds)
  - Determine if eligible for Tax Levy Adjustments (Enrollment, Benefits)
  - Estimate Appropriations (Expenditures) (February)
  - Balance the Budget (February / March)
  - Receive final state aid notices
  - Determine if there is a surplus or deficit
  - Use goals and priorities as a guide
  - Evaluate use of banked cap & adjustments
  - Evaluate use of reserves
  - Determine Local Tax Levy
  - Balance the budget
- Projected Revenue and Tax Impact
  - 2020-2021 Projected Debt Service
  - Estimated School Tax Impact
  - Year Over Year Tax Impact
- Enrollment
  - Kindergarten enrollment declined by 146
  - 55 students home schooled
  - Pre-School enrollment increased by 1 student.
  - Student enrollment declined by 127 in grades 1 through 12
- Budget Calendar

[Presentations on file in Board Secretary's Office and/or District website.]

BOARD PRESIDENT'S UPDATE - *Thair Joshua*

Board President Joshua thanked former Board President Annemarie Maini for being generous with her time during the transition. He also thanked everyone involved with our Phase 3 reopening, custodians, building leaders,

guidance, social workers, all our educators, administrators and most importantly our teachers. We know it has been a long time. We know that you love your profession and your students; we know you have missed your students and the 98% student attendance rate for our hybrid programs show that our families have missed you as well.

### School Board Recognition Month

The New Jersey School Boards Association has declared January 2021 to be School Board Recognition Month, a time when all residents can acknowledge the contributions made by local school board members, who receive no remuneration for their services. They act as advocates for public school students as they work with administrators, teachers and parents for the betterment of public education; and strive to provide the resources necessary to meet the needs of all students.

### Meeting in Public

Recent guidance on public meetings provides three options for Boards holding public meetings: entirely remote, in person or a hybrid. Within those parameters, there are different rules, for instance if we have a quorum of board members in attendance at a public meeting, we have to open it up to the public, and it does not appear that boards cannot limit public attendance. The inability to limit the number of in-person attendees creates a potentially unsafe environment for the community and goes against guidance from our local health officer. This scenario is different from our current hybrid learning environment, where class sizes are limited and visitors are not permitted in our schools. We are continuing to work with our health officials as well as ensure any public meeting will be held in a compliant manner and we look forward to meeting in public, with public attendance, in the near future.

### Vaccine Prioritization

I encourage everyone to write to our state level legislators to advocate for educators moving up the vaccine priority list. In the meantime, I urge everyone to be diligent and continue wearing a mask, practicing social distancing, washing your hands and staying home when you are not feeling well. We will all get through this together.

### HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS AND DELEGATIONS

#### Elizabeth Baker

- Q. I'm writing in response to the course registration data presented tonight. This data is not contextualized in the curriculum nor compare against the demographics of each grade and school, and is misleading. I hope it will be corrected.
- A. The presentation was an overview of the District's obligations. I do not believe it was misleading at all. It was surface level and we are going to take a deeper dive at our February 8 meeting.

Kelly Piccola

Q. Is there an updated enrollment number, more recent than October?

A. Everyday there's an enrollment number. We have students enrolling throughout the school year, so the number will change throughout the school year.

Cindy Gingerich

Q. There's been a report of new cases since schools opened back up. Why isn't it a requirement for staff and students to get COVID testing before stepping foot in the building on January 19th. As we all know people can show no symptoms of COVID but still can spread the virus. You are putting people at risk and who will be held liable if someone's child catches COVID?

A. We have reviewed the option of mandatory testing for public schools. Our Health and Safety Subcommittee considered it. We know this is a very complex issue. Also, we know that when someone gets tested, as soon as they leave that testing area their status can change based on who they are exposed to, especially outside of our School District. What we have also acknowledged many times, is that this is a very personal choice for our families. We want to make sure our virtual learning and in-person options are high quality and that our families can feel comfortable with whatever their family unit decides. We are trying to be careful that we are not doing a sales job to convince families to return, but that we are giving families information to make their own personal decision. Again, we have considered the testing option but it's difficult to mandate testing when you are in a public-school environment.

Nadia Herrera

C. I'd like to thank the Board, Dr. Taylor, Dr. Alegria, Mr. Johnson and Mrs. Samuels for working with the YMCA to save the Montrose Y childcare program for working families. We are hopeful that we can stay at Jefferson after the school reopens for hybrid learners.

A. I happy to hear this. This was a true team effort. We wanted to make sure families were serviced. The YMCA has been fantastic at being flexible and Dr. Alegria, Mr. Roth and the entire Montrose team have worked really hard to make sure that this was an available option for families.

Nicole Levit

Q. Has the district determined the conditions that would need to be met to open the schools full-time or even half-time five days a week to all students?

A. We yield to our healthcare professionals and today we held a meeting with our health department leaders from South Orange

Village and Maplewood Township, along with our internal health Professionals, Dr. Alegria and myself to talk about this and we will be sharing information shortly. We are still gathering feedback from Board members and internal leaders as well.

Mary Wingfield Best

C. Hello all,

As a mother of two children at Maplewood Middle School (7th and 8th), it is nothing short of negligent that our children have not been in the classroom for 318 days. As we approach the year mark of the Covid-19 pandemic, I am extremely frustrated and intensely disappointed that education, mental and social health have not been prioritized for our children.

LISTEN. When you all start doing your jobs, then you can hold my children to the normal standards of grading and attendance. But until then, it is remarkably unfair and audacious to grade my children in ANY measure, when you all have failed for almost one year to hold up your end of the bargain.

It is long overdue that we open schools and get our children back to school. Please do so immediately.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/01/24/us/politics/student-suicides-nevada-coronavirus.html>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/01/25/opinion/brazil-schools-coronavirus.html>"

- A. I know that I am repeating myself, but we are always going to defer to our Departments of Health. That is the direction we received in the state reopening guidelines. The Department of Health can speed up, slow down or stop in-person learning and they are giving us guidance. We are not pointing the finger or blaming them. We are thankful for their thoughtful partnership as we try to do what is a very difficult undertaking of trying to keep everyone safe, while also educating our students in-person, if families select to do so.

Vanessa May

- C. I am very concerned about health and safety of teachers and students in K-2 hybrid schooling. I am particularly concerned because the decision to reopen in the way that we have does not inspire confidence that the district is able to effectively guard community health. In his message to parents about reopening, Dr. Taylor argued that opening only for a few grades, including k-2, would reduce density. My children go to Marshall School, which is entirely k-2, and which has apparently no less density. In September, we received guidance saying that it was unsafe to open without better ventilation. Now, teachers are being told that opening their windows is enough and that they don't need



better ventilation filters. Some are even being advised to open their windows only an inch or two. This comes at a time when a much more infectious variant is circulating in New Jersey and the numbers of infections are skyrocketing. More ventilation, not less, is needed. Experts here and in Europe are suggesting that cloth masks are not sufficient to protect wearers from COVID while indoors. Teachers have not been provided with better PPE. Unlike many districts that have successfully reopened, the district is doing no testing. Without it, and considering that many children experience very mild symptoms, how can anyone be sure how many cases we have and how exposed teachers are? Now, the boilers in Marshall School are not working and some teachers have been teaching in rooms with windows open and no heat for over a week. This situation does not demonstrate, despite all assurances to the contrary, the care for teachers' health, safety, and mental health that we have a moral responsibility to demonstrate. The district can either provide safe conditions or it cannot. If it cannot, school buildings should not be open.

- A. We have shown that we have a commitment to the advice that we get and we follow that our Departments of Health and we also follow the State's reopening guidelines and the New Jersey Department of Education's guidance on this matter. As we have expressed throughout our reopening plan, we are doing reasonably all that we can and what we are directed to do as a school district. There are strong differing opinions on this topic in our community, so we are trying to be very measured and thoughtful with everything that we are doing. We acknowledge that this isn't the perfect situation, but we're trying to do all that we can to follow the guidelines to provide in person instruction for our families.

Jacek Cempura

- C. Dr. Taylor, during your interview on nationwide television yesterday, we learned that 4 million dollars were spent to (quote) "make our schools COVID safe." I would, as a taxpayer, want to see the itemized purchase orders for the 4 million dollars spent in public disclosure for all to review. If purchases were made for filters that cannot be effective for COVID, please advise who made that decision. Thank you for your time.
- A. We were contacted by the fact checker for articles and interviews that we do on behalf of the District. We were asked how much has the district spent as a result of COVID and we sent to NBC a listing of all the things we've done and I shared that with the Board. The list was not for building preparation alone, but also all of the PPE purchased, overtime, additional custodial staff and disinfectant purchased from March until present. We reached out to NBC to tell them that what the reporter stated is a small deviation and it is not accurate to state the district spent \$4 million dollars to get the buildings COVID ready. That is not exactly what the information we shared with them was. The numbers speaks to all of our COVID preparations and responses including Chromebooks that were purchased, the Canvas Learning Management System

and CARES Act funds. There are many, many things that are attached to the number.

Heather Hartzell

- C. I am writing to urge you, Dr. Taylor, to give us additional and specific information about when schools will proceed to Phase 4 of reopening. I am also urging that you prioritize inclusion classes in grades 3-5 during phase 4 of reopening to allow our youngest special needs learners (who continue to suffer during virtual schooling) to return to the buildings as soon as possible.
- A. As I stated before we are working with Health Departments to develop a phase 4 introductory plan which we have shared with our Board of Education. We will be filling it out more as we speak with building-based Administrators, the Senior Leadership Team and Health Department. We will be able to share that tentative plan with everyone next week.

Liz Callahan

- Q. Can you speak more broadly regarding what specifically the money that went towards mental health services was spent on from CARES?
- A. The additional funds that we were looking to earmark from the CARES Grant for Special Services are for related services, so we can continue to add some additional related services, makeup services and compensatory services. A lot of the mental health funds were used for the three mental health staff members that we brought into district and we also have a large amount of Social Worker interns supporting us. We do not pay for interns but they are a huge support to the district in terms of mental health during this very crucial time.

Dr. Taylor provided for the record how the \$3.8 million was spent for COVID preparations and responses by the district. The list included the cost for the District to improve air quality including the air purifiers, filters and HVAC work, costs to hire additional permanent substitutes assigned to each of our schools to provide support during hybrid learning, additional transportation aids because of the social distancing and COVID requirements that we have to reduce the density on buses, hiring additional custodial staff, purchase of PPE, the Canvas Learning Management System, professional development for teachers on how to use the Canvas Management System and how to provide virtual learning, hotspots, chromebooks for students, purchase of supplies, wipes, disinfectant, hand sanitizer, plexiglass, furniture and additional Support Services.

Abigail Murtagh

- C. I was devastated when the district reopened. I understand you are guided by State mandates and that the principal opens schools unless controls your decisions, that unless kept schools closed through December. You kept schools closed in September when cases were low because filtration and ventilation were inadequate. You couldn't just

enter the schools open windows and hope for the best, that would have been unsafe. You extended the closure in November because ventilation work was not complete. Again, opening windows was not a safe solution. Now cases are surging and a highly contagious variant is circulating, filtration is still inadequate and work to improve ventilation is incomplete. There are rooms with no working univents where teachers are being told to just open windows and hope for the best. If we could not do that safely in September, we certainly cannot do it now. School should have stayed closed and the very least, I think you should have afforded teachers the opportunity to be vaccinated. But now you are open and the implementation of the reopening shown a lack of protection and care for teachers. I am asking you to implement the following five protections: 1) Immediately shut all classrooms without a working univent. If open windows provided enough protection you would have opened in September, they do not. Teachers should be moved to functioning rooms and if none are available they should teach virtually until a functioning room is ready. You should also shut all rooms without functioning heat 2) In order to fully implement number one survey, every teacher about the status of their heat, univent and windows. Waiting for teachers to file maintenance requests and work through the chain of command is not acceptable at this time. You need to know now about issues from the teachers in the rooms 3) You adjusted the reopening plan to reduce the number of classes in buildings. Marshall, Montrose and the Annex have all classes present. Teachers at these schools have inferior protections. You should figure out how to implement the same strategy at these schools or keep them remote. Please do not keep asserting that the reduced population is enough mitigation. If it were, you would not have adjusted your plan for every other school in the district 4) Stop sending specialists to every classroom. The risk to the specialists and the potential risk to the entire school should the specialist contract COVID is reckless 5) Finally and most importantly implement pooled testing, which has been implemented in public districts and gives a snapshot of a school community not an individual at a specific time. I understand these are difficult times that many children are happy to be back in school but their happiness is not justified at any cost. Despite great anxieties and marked risks, our teachers have continued to show up for our students. We need to do a much better job showing up for them.

Thank you

- A. I think that in an ideal setting we would want to do that, but one thing that we have to acknowledge is our repairs are cyclical and when things are repaired, they may not stay repaired. My predecessor and our Board's predecessors sought out the very generous \$160 million for repairs to our buildings. These systems are very old and antiquated some are 70 years old, some maybe even older. We are trying to do all that we can to open schools knowing they will never be perfect because we do not have the time or dollars to spend \$160 million right now to impact our kids who need us right now. We are taking all the precautions that we can we are involving health professionals in this and again we understand.

Kelly Harris

- C. Thank you so much for everything Dr. Taylor, Board members, teachers and school administrators. I am the parent of an eighth grade student and Copresident of the HSA. I had the pleasure of meeting and talking with a lot of you. For those who may not be familiar with Maplewood Middle School we have the second highest amount of students behind Columbia High School. It is also a building that serves the high needs population and yet the perception continues to be that it's not a priority for the district. This is not a conversation about students getting back to school and teachers etc. I support everyone. It's about the actual prioritization of our building. Unfortunately, this is not unique to the pandemic. Pre-COVID I was shocked by the amount of time it took to fix the elevator. This is a school with students who have real physical disabilities and it was not prioritized. Now during COVID, we are again the building with the most broken motors. At best it is nonfeasance, misfeasance or worst malfeasance. I would like to understand who is actually accountable. The school was empty. Now there are people scrambling to try to fix vents and these motors and there are students and teachers in the building. To quote Ms. Malespina from October, she said "we need to understand exactly what happened", understand what steps the district is taking to address these issues. I would like to understand who is accountable and how or if Maplewood Middle School has been prioritized from the bottom of the list after Montrose and Annex, for example.
- A. Maplewood Middle School has a bit of a unique circumstance because out of all of our schools they have the most motors that need to be repaired in their system and as you stated they have the second largest enrollment. Although we only have a fraction of the students who are in person that has been a big priority, but we have not control of the turnaround for repairing motors in factories. So, while it may appear that they have the most rooms incomplete, we cannot repair them until the motors return from the factory. It is not a matter of prioritizing. I cannot speak to prior prioritization, but we are in constant communication with Principal Gronau. Whenever the principal reaches out to us we are being very responsive.

Eileen Pizzuro

- C. I am the parent of two fifth graders at Jefferson and a first grader at Marshall School. I understand that as part of the update Dr. Taylor mentioned that Principal Horn had sent a communication out to the Marshall community letting us know about the broken boilers in the school. While we did get that communication, probably right before this meeting started, the community was not made aware before tonight. It has been going on for at least the week that teachers have been back in the building and it is my understanding that it is against NJ department of health regulations that the heat is not to the level of at least 68°. I understand that we are in the middle of a pandemic and in order to make the rooms even remotely safe the windows have to be open, but it is

unacceptable for it to be 50°. I understand that the communication and in Dr. Taylor's update he mentioned that they are working on contingencies and schools won't be open tomorrow, so at least teachers and students don't have to worry about it in the immediate term for tomorrow. I also understand that this is not a conversation with the board, and I know that a lot of the Marshall community teachers and students in that school would like to know what those contingencies are and understand what will happen if the building is not able to be heated to an acceptable degree, because it is unacceptable to me to make teachers teach in that environment and unacceptable to make students learn in this environment. Neither is being done well when they are freezing and the building in a normal time would be closed because it was 50°.

Thank you very much for your time.

- A. I actually personally visited Marshall School today as I did last week and I spoke directly with the Principal about concerns and to strategize. Mr. Roth and our facilities team have been working diligently with our architect to determine contingency plans. We are not able to share those plans right now because we are in the middle of one plan. Someone is there monitoring to make sure that building is heating and that the heating will continue throughout the day when students return to that building. We acknowledge that some of those rooms were too cold.

I was also told by the principal that this is not a first-time concern. Over many years in that building there have been ongoing heat control issues. Similar to our response to the first comment these are not new easy fixes for us and as part of the State's direction to us we are to do all that we can within reason and we are doing that.

We have the highest priority right now to make sure Marshall School students and teachers have the appropriate amount of heat in their building and if it is not appropriate we have steps in place to deal with it.

Malia Harmon

- C. On behalf of the Special Education Parent Advisory Committee, we want to acknowledge you for re-opening schools this month to students, including those with special needs, specifically those in self-contained classes and selected pullout resource room, both of which are receiving instruction 4 days a week. However, many special needs children in our community continue to struggle daily with virtual learning. Some are in inclusion classes in grade 3 and above so the delay in the phase 4 reopening has impacted these children. Others are virtual students who must now transition to receiving fewer instructional hours a week with supports that still do not come close to what they would have received in normal times. These children deserve your attention and priority. Therefore, we urge you to prioritize bringing inclusion classes in grades 3-5, 7-8 and 10-12 back to buildings as soon as safely possible.

Additionally, we urge you to find a way to provide more for our families who remain virtual.

Thank you for your time and consideration and I look forward to your response.

- A. Thank you for your comment. Dr. Alegria has a monthly meeting and newsletter that is directed to Special Services families in particular for their granular needs. I also personally meet with SEPAC on a quarterly basis to follow-up with their needs, but it's never complete. We are in phase III and we have some of our students in the building, but things are not complete until every family has all that we can offer.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

##### CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION - *Board Member Siders*

The committee discussed the following:

- Curriculum Update
  - Capital Markets
- New Course Proposals (See Attachments)
  - Marketing
  - Bio in Pop Culture
- STAR Renaissance & TC Data Update
- 6-8 ELA and TC integration
- Program of Studies -Principal Sanchez
  - Graduation Requirements?
- NJQSAC Update
- ATLAS Update
- PD Overview
- Authentic Learning PD
- Streamable Learning
- CIP Update
- OCR-EEOC
- Policy Update
- Special Services

##### FINANCE FACILITIES & TECHNOLOGY - *Board Member Wright*

The committee discussed the following:

- Update on VOIP phone system implementation
- Update on internet connectivity
- Fiscal audit for the secondary Carl D. Perkins Grants
- Budget Revenue and Debt Service

##### PERSONNEL & LABOR RELATIONS - *Board Member Maini*

The committee discussed the following:

- 504 Accommodations and process was reviewed
- January 2021 personnel resolutions
- Demographic Chart of new hires
  - This is aligned to Goal 4 - hire staff that reflects student population. The Black Parents Workshop Agreement expresses our commitment to this endeavor.
- Increase in Minimum Wage
- Governor's Executive Order Re: SGOs in the evaluation process
- Other personnel matters

POLICY COMMITTEE - Board Member Siders

The committee discussed the following:

- Policy Process
- Policy Management
- Strauss Esmay
- Policies for second reading
  - Policy 1642 - Earned Sick Leave Law
  - Policy 1613 - Disclosure and Review of Applicant's Employment History

NJSBA ESSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION MEETING - Board Member Cuttle

Essex County Association meetings provides an opportunity to bring together Executive Committee members in neighboring districts and across the county. The topic this month was legislative updates from NJSBA and a panel discussion on COVID-19 and Schools. There was a panel discussion during this meeting that was moderated by Newark Board of Education President and Essex County School Board Association President Josephine Garcia and myself as a member of the Essex County School Boards Association Executive Committee. The panelist of esteemed guests included speakers Mary Ellen Clyne, PhD, President and Chief Executive Officer, Clara Maass Medical Center, Sarah Bonilla, MPH, Director, Center of Excellence for Latino Health, Frank Mazarella, MD, Chief Continuum of Care Officer Luis Espina, MD, Internist, Clara Maass Medical Center and Barnabas Health Medical Group, Susan Hagen Morrison, MD, Pediatric Allergist and Immunologist, Clara Maass Medical Center, Candice Davenport, Township of Maplewood Health Officer and Maya Lordo Essex County Health Officer. Highlights of the meeting included the following:

- Panelists stressed the importance of Board meetings remaining virtual instead of in-person based on health safety standards at this time.
- COVID 19 Vaccinations - Assuring that across the county school districts and Board members understand where to get information and resources to share with the community and staff, covering everything from COVID-19 testing and getting vaccinated.
- Vaccination roll out

- Boards advocating for teachers to be added to the vaccination list.
- Resource list provided by Clara Mass Medical Center, Essex County and Maplewood Health Departments.
- Legislative update from NJSBA regarding QSAC requirements and legislation on making a commitment to diversity in education and supporting teachers.

ITEMS FOR ACTION

Motion made by Dr. Taylor, seconded by Board Member Maini that the Board of Education approves the following:

4094A. MEMORIAL

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE Board of Education approve the following memorials:

Chandar Gulati, retired CHS math teacher passed away on December 28, 2020.

The Superintendent is asked to convey our condolences to the family and friends of Chandar Gulati.

4094B. RETIREMENT

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	EFFECTIVE DATE	YEARS IN DISTRICT
Paisner, Terri	T 4 SM - 1.0 FTE	7/1/21	27

4094C. RESIGNATION

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	EFFECTIVE DATE
Erazo, Ronald	Custodial Supervisor DIST - 1.0 FTE	2/26/21

4094D. APPOINTMENTS

(This employment is conditional and subject to the disclosure requirement; pending compliance with NJ Public Law 2018, Chapter 5)

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	EFFECTIVE DATE	ACTUAL SALARY
Arruda, Karla	T 1 CLIN - 1.0 FTE	2/1/21 6/30/21	\$50,060
Gage, Lucia	School Bus Aide DIST - .5 FTE	1/19/21 6/30/21	\$15,908
Panzone, Jeanine	Clerk DIST - 1.0 FTE	1/4/21 6/30/21	\$12/hour
Patel, Urjit	AV Technician DIST - 1.0 FTE	1/25/21 6/30/21	\$65,893
Williams,	School Bus Aide	2/15/21	\$15,908



Clay	DIST - .5 FTE	6/30/21	
------	---------------	---------	--

4094E. LEAVE REPLACEMENT APPOINTMENT

(This employment is conditional and subject to the disclosure requirement; pending compliance with NJ Public Law 2018, Chapter 5)

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	EFFECTIVE DATE	ACTUAL SALARY
Walsh, Lauren	School Counselor SOM - 1.0 FTE	2/8/21 or sooner 6/30/21	\$58,460

4094F. CHANGE IN START DATE

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	OLD START DATE	NEW START DATE
Gonzalez, Daniella	LR T Social Studies SOM - 1.0 FTE	1/27/21	1/16/21

4094G. CHANGE IN END DATE

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	OLD END DATE	NEW END DATE
Subbuswamy, Shoba	LR T Math CHS - 1.0 FTE	2/8/21	2/2/21
Sudit, Leana	LR Guidance Counselor MM - 1.0 FTE	1/15/21	6/30/21

4094H. TRANSFERS/REASSIGNMENTS

NAME	OLD ASSIGNMENT	NEW ASSIGNMENT	EFFECTIVE DATE
DeVomecourt, Courtney	T 1 CLIN - 1.0 FTE	Academic Intervention Teacher CLIN - 1.0 FTE	2/1/21 6/30/21
Silva, Debra	T Language Arts MM - 1.0 FTE	Academic Intervention Teacher MM - 1.0 FTE	2/23/21 6/30/21
Simpkins, Dashanda	T PreK/Inclusion MONT - 1.0 FTE	T PreK/SC MONT - 1.0 FTE	1/26/21 6/30/21

4094I. LEAVES OF ABSENCE

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	EFFECTIVE DATE
Carney, Vanessa	Athletic Trainer CHS - 1.0 FTE	1/11/21-3/26/21 (Paid Sick Days)
Cicenia, Anthony	T Science SOM - 1.0 FTE	11/28/20-1/29/21 (Paid Sick Days)
Conkin, Andrew	T KDG MAR - 1.0 FTE	4/5/21-6/25/21 (Unpaid FMLA)
Dios, Kelli	Guidance Counselor MM - 1.0 FTE	1/1/21-1/29/21 (Unpaid Personal Leave)
Fox,	LDTC	12/21/20-2/17/21

Mara	MA/JEFF 1.0 FTE	(Paid Maternity Leave) 2/18/21-5/19/21 (Unpaid FMLA)
Hart-Ruderman, Sophia	T H/PE SOM 1.0 FTE	11/30/20-2/10/21 (Paid Maternity Leave) 2/11/21-5/12/21 (Unpaid FMLA)
Herekar, Ashwin	T SPED CHS - 1.0 FTE	3/22/21-4/23/21 (Unpaid FMLA)
Mehl, Elizabeth	Academic Intervention Teacher CLIN - 1.0 FTE	1/4/21-1/19/21 (Paid Sick/Personal Days)
Miller, Colleen	T SPED MM - 1.0 FTE	1/7/21-6/30/21 (Unpaid Personal Leave)
Munoz, Leslie	Occupational Therapist DIST - 1.0 FTE	1/21/21-4/21/21 (Unpaid NJ FLA)
Rugbeer, Nafizia	School Bus Driver DIST - .5 FTE	12/4/20-12/11/20 (Paid FFCRA-EPFLA)
Rynar, Craig	T 4 SM - 1.0 FTE	2/1/21-3/26/21 (Paid Sick Days)
Van Wert, Cynthia	T SPED TUS 1.0 FTE	11/24/20-2/9/21 (Paid Maternity Leave) 2/10/21-5/11/21 (Unpaid FMLA)
Williams, Ingrid	S4/12, Secretary (SPED) DIST - 1.0 FTE	1/7/21-1/13/21 (1/2 day) (Paid Sick/Vacation Days) 1/13/21 (1/2 day) - 2/26/21 (Unpaid FMLA)

4094J. SALARY ADJUSTMENTS

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	EFFECTIVE DATE	ADJUSTMENT	ACTUAL SALARY
Clyburn, Brian	School Counselor CHS - .2 FTE	12/1-12/23/20 (16 days)	\$83.86 (per day)	\$1,341.76
Mooney- Chavis, Danielle	School Counselor CHS - .2 FTE	12/1-12/23/20 (16 days)	\$83.39 (per day)	\$1,334.24
Renelle, Stephanie	School Counselor CHS - .2 FTE	12/1-12/23/20 (16 days)	\$78.91 (per day)	\$1,262.56
Rucker, Courtney	School Counselor CHS - .2 FTE	12/1-12/23/20 (16 days)	\$66.46 (per day)	\$1,063.36
Williams, Adrian	School Counselor CHS - .2 FTE	12/1-12/23/20 (16 days)	\$60.46 (per day)	\$967.36
Maggiore, Molly	T PE/H CHS - .2 FTE	12/1- 12/23/20 (16 days)	\$67.76 (per day)	\$1,084.16
Mobley, Gary	T PE/H CHS - .2 FTE	12/1-12/23/20 (16 days)	\$93.25 (per day)	\$1,492
Shannon, Rob	T PE/H CHS - .2 FTE	12/1-12/23/20 (16 days)	\$93.25 (per day)	\$1,492

Trieu, Johnathan	T PE/H CHS - .2 FTE	12/1-12/23/20 (16 days)	\$55.46 (per day)	\$887.36
D'Alessio, Tara	T SPED CHS - .2 FTE	12/1-12/23/20 (16 days)	\$93.25 (per day)	\$1,492
Kaller, Nichole	T SPED CHS - .2 FTE	12/1-12/23/20 (16 days)	\$76.26 (per day)	\$1,220.16
Keegan, William	T SPED CHS - .2 FTE	12/1-12/23/20 (16 days)	\$93.25 (per day)	\$1,492
Simon, Kenneth	T SPED CHS - .2 FTE	12/1-12/23/20 (16 days)	\$83.86 (per day)	\$1,341.76
Steindler, Philip	T SPED CHS - .2 FTE	12/1-12/7/20 (5 days)	\$64.46 (per day)	\$322.30
Spina, Kathleen	T SPED CHS - .2 FTE	12/8-12/23/20 (12 days)	\$93.86 (per day)	\$1,126.32
Buzar, Marissa	T SPED CHS - .2 FTE	12/1-12/4/20 (4 days)	\$57.26 (per day)	\$229.04
Femenella, Matthew	T SPED CHS - .2 FTE	12/1-12/4/20 (4 days)	\$64.46 (per day)	\$257.84
Gallof, Pam	T SPED CHS - .2 FTE	12/1-12/4/20 (4 days)	\$83.55 (per day)	\$334.20
Herekar, Ashwin	T SPED CHS - .2 FTE	12/1-12/4/20 (4 days)	\$64.46 (per day)	\$257.84
Spina, Kathleen	T SPED CHS - .2 FTE	12/1-12/4/20 (4 days)	\$93.86 (per day)	\$375.44
Bachenheimer, Stacey	T SCI/B CHS - .2 FTE	12/14- 12/23/20 (4 days)	\$98.95 (per day)	\$395.80
Barber, Kristin	T SCI/B CHS - .2 FTE	12/14- 12/23/20 (4 days)	\$98.95 (per day)	\$395.80
Hannemann, Monika	T SCI/B CHS - .2 FTE	12/15- 12/23/20 (4 days)	\$76.66 (per day)	\$306.64
Nugent, James	T SCI/B CHS - .2 FTE	12/14- 12/23/20 (4 days)	\$98.95 (per day)	\$395.80
Giarratana, Jason	AV Tech DIST - 1.0 FTE	1/19/21 6/30/21	+\$50	\$65,893
Hewitt, Cheryline	Asst. Principal CHS - 1.0 FTE	1/24/21 6/30/21	+\$2,500	\$165,518

4094K. STIPEND

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	EFFECTIVE DATE	SALARY
Sumner, Jacob	Asst./Freshman Coach, Girls Basketball CHS - 1.0 FTE	12/1/20 2/28/21	\$3,749
Tapia-Vargas, Arelis	District Social Worker/Parenting Center DIST - 1.0 FTE	2/1/21 6/30/21	\$3,975

4094L. APPROVE JOB DESCRIPTION (see attached)

Revised - Stipend District Social Work/Parenting Center

4095A. APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

STATE CERTIFIED TEACHER

NAME	INSTITUTION	DATE	DEGREE
Arruda, Karla	Kean University	5/2015	BS
Grice, Steven	Howard University	5/1987	BA
Raymond, Latoya	Institute for Theological and Leadership Development	2007	BA
Sladowsky, Arie	Monmouth University University of Maryland	1/2004 5/2000	MA BA

COLLEGE GRADUATE AND STATE SUBSTITUTE CERTIFICATE

NAME	INSTITUTION	DATE	DEGREE
Akawuaku, Chiedozi	Bloomfield College	5/2020	BS
Dennis, Donte	University of Maine	5/2021	BS
Hargrave-Kerns, Maureen	Western Governors University	12/2019	BA
Obi, Obiageli	Nnamdi Azikiwe University	1998	BA
Payne, Patricia	Hunter College	2/2002	BA
Stein, Kathryn	University of Richmond	2001	BS
Stewart, Tamara	Bloomfield College	5/1996	BS
Wexler, Ariana	Fairleigh Dickinson University	5/2020 5/2020	BA MA

COUNTY SUBSTITUTE CERTIFICATES - NON-DEGREES

Mondacci, Jessica
Young-Cerchio, Ashley

4095B. APPOINTMENT OF HOME INSTRUCTORS FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR  
PAID THE HOURLY RATE OF \$35.00

Name	Certification(s)
Elizabeth LiPuma	Teacher of Social Studies Teacher of Students w/Disabilities Elementary School Teacher w/Subj. Spec.: Social Studies in Gr. 5-8
Liping Meng	Teacher of Chinese CE - Teacher of English as a Second Language

4095C. APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL  
YEAR PAID AT THE DAILY RATE OF \$84.00

COUNTY SUBSTITUTE CERTIFICATES - NON-DEGREES

Artiles, Sergio	Gibson, Aiyonnah
Cabrera, Jocelyn	McNeil, Marcel
DeSarme, Marie	Mondacci, Jessica
Faison, Aja	Saintil, Leroy
Tunis, Eddy	

4095D. APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE SECRETARIES FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL  
YEAR PAID THE HOURLY RATE OF \$12.00

Sandra Criscuolo                      Debra Trebitz  
Samantha Webb                         Renee Wyatt

4095E. APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE SECRETARIES FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL  
YEAR PAID THE HOURLY RATE OF \$12.50

Edith Alvarado                      Sabrina Bethea                      Catherine Cadorette  
Fay Clark                              Margaret Dempsey                      Lisa Fallone  
Treena Goodman                      Stacey Maebert                      Sharon Rago  
Sandra Ritchwood                      Kathleen Robinson                      Elizabeth Simmons  
Maria Toledo

4095F. APPOINTMENT OF LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTES FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL  
YEAR PAID AT A DAILY RATE OF \$160

Cheidozie Akawuaku                      Karla Arruda                      Geraldine Caparruva  
Jasmine Clark                              Jennifer Christensen                      Dennis Donte  
Aja Faison                                  Maureen Hargrave-Kerns                      Dwayne Jackson  
Jasmine King                              Austin Little                      Marcel McNeil  
Elizabeth Nolet                              Obi Obiageli                      Patricia Payne  
Lauren Pope-Francis                      Malcolm Steele                      Kathryn Stein  
Tamara Stewart                              John Vogt                      Debra West  
Ariana Wexler                              Ashley Young-Cerchio

4095G. APPOINTMENT OF OUT-OF-DISTRICT COACH FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	CONTRACT YEAR	STIPEND
Lantz, Christopher	Assistant/JV Wrestling Coach	12/2020 2/2021	\$5,614

4095H. APPOINTMENT OF VOLUNTEER FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

Name	Assignment
Alejandra Teran Eligio	Fencing

4095I. APPOINTMENT OF ATHLETIC EVENT TICKET SELLERS, TICKET TAKERS, SUPERVISORS AND OFFICIALS FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR (see attached fee schedule)

Jade Akinrolabu	Kristin Barber	Ron Barkley
Juan Bas	Matthew Borkowski	Cassandra Bragg
Michaia Brown	Beatrice Bunch	Allison Cahill
Jon Campbell	Vanessa Carney	Dallas Clem
Brian Clyburn	Dorothy Conners	David Crouch
Ann Cupo	Maureen Davenport	Marguerite Dempsey
Donte Dennis	Monique Durant	Robert Ellis
Sabina Ellis	Wahkeelah Ellis	Matthew Femenella
Daniel Festerling	Steven Fradkin	Ashwin Herekar
Danyelle Holloway	Pat Hurley	Reginald Innocent
William Keegan	Keysha Knight	Gonzalo Lemos
Rocio Lopez	Paul Marigliano	Gary Mobley
Ryan Muirhead	Joe Pilone	Steven Reichenstein
Antonio Rodriguez	Jermaine Royster	Robert Shannon
Amy Singer	Clifford Smith	John Trieu
Todd Van Beveren	Thomas Whitaker	Dillon White

4096. Approves the attached list of students who are scheduled to attend Out-of-District tuition supported programs for the 2020-2021 school year.

4097A. Receives and accepts the following financial reports:

1. Board Secretary's Report dated December 31, 2020
2. Expense Account Adjustment Analysis dated December 31, 2020
3. Revenue Account Adjustment Analysis dated December 31, 2020
4. Check Register #407606-407842 in the amount of \$4,454,375.95
5. Check Register #200725 in the amount of \$1,329,055.72
6. Check Register #200726 for December 2020 payroll in the amount \$7,163,335.33
7. Treasurer's Report of November 2020

4097B. Certify the Board Secretary's Monthly Financial Report.

4097C. Approves the attendance and related travel and/or workshop expenses for the following work-related events:

Employee	Workshop/Conference	Travel Date(s)	Location	Estimated Cost(s)
Elizabeth Barry Central Office	Purchasing Update and Best Practices & NJSTART State Contract Purchasing	3/16/21	Online	\$50.00
Andrea Del Guercio Central Office	Budget Guidelines & Software Review; Best practices in budgeting	2/2/21	Online	\$50.00
Andrea Del Guercio Central Office	Understanding School Ethics NJSA 18A:12	2/23/21	Online	\$50.00
Andrea Del Guercio Central Office	Purchasing Update and Best Practices & NJSTART State Contract Purchasing	3/16/21	Online	\$50.00

4097D. Accepts a donation for the Parenting Center in the amount of \$32,695.52

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the following budget is increased and the Superintendent or his designee is authorized to administer it:

20-019-200-890                      Parenting Center                      \$32,695.52

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board President, Superintendent and Board Secretary are authorized to execute and deliver any necessary contracts and reports on behalf of the Board.

4097E. WHEREAS, pursuant to NJSA 18:A:6-61 et seq., the South Orange and Maplewood Board of Education must elect one of its members to represent it on the Representative Assembly of the Essex Regional Educational Services Commission; and

WHEREAS, the South Orange and Maplewood Board of Education has held such an election among its members;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Superintendent of the Essex Regional Educational Services Commission be notified that Elissa Malespina has been duly elected as a member of the Representative Assembly of the Essex Regional Educational Services Commission; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of the minutes indicating such election be forwarded to the Superintendent/Board Secretary of the Essex Regional Educational Services Commission

4097F. WHEREAS, elementary families residing in the geographic zones for Tuscan, Marshall, Jefferson, Clinton and South Mountain elementary schools have had the choice of enrolling in the Seth Boyden Demonstration School since the Demonstration School's inception, but it was not until the pilot in the 2021-2022 school year that

families zoned for Seth Boyden were provided with a choice to opt in to another elementary school; and

WHEREAS, the SOMSD believes that all elementary families should be afforded equal access and choice; and

WHEREAS, the SOMSD can create a level playing field for all students and all families to have choice at the elementary level with courtesy busing if they reside more than one (1) mile away from the designated school;

WE RESOLVE that the Superintendent and the Administration are directed to provide for opportunities for Seth Boyden-zoned families to have choice in elementary schools for the 2021-2022 school year by opting in to Marshall and Jefferson within a defined timeframe to be determined by the Superintendent;

BE IT FURTHER resolved that the SOMSD shall provide courtesy bussing to Seth Boyden-zoned families who opt to enroll in Marshall or Jefferson in accordance with the existing courtesy busing practices; and

BE IT FURTHER resolved that the SOMSD shall communicate with all families seeking to register in elementary school regarding the Seth Boyden Demonstration School and its programming and how families who are outside the Seth Boyden Zone can opt in, and the District shall likewise communicate with families in the Seth Boyden the zone who are seeking to register the option of opting in to Marshall and Jefferson.

4097G. Approves the submission of an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2021 Federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA), Part B-Basic and Preschool funds application and accepts these funds in the amount of \$1,926,278 as listed below.

<u>Program</u>	<u>Amount</u>
IDEIA-Basic Public	\$1,828,205
IDEIA-Basic Nonpublic	<u>\$ 49,640</u>
Total Basic	\$1,877,845
IDEIA-Preschool Public	\$ 48,433
IDEIA-Preschool Nonpublic	<u>0</u>
Total Preschool	\$ 48,433
Total IDEIA Application	\$1,926,278

4097H. Approves the purchase additional Internet Services from Data Network Solutions of Little Silver, New Jersey for a term of 6 months in the amount of \$20,142.



4097I. Approves an agreement with Atlas of Portland, Oregon for additional online professional development hours in the amount of \$4,500.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board President, Superintendent and Board Secretary are authorized to execute and deliver any necessary contracts and reports on behalf of the Board.

4097J. Approves the submission of an amendment application for the 2021 CARES Emergency Relief Grant and accepts these funds in the amount of \$425,527.

4097K. Accepts a donation for the Mac Scholars Program in the amount of \$350.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the following budget is increased and the Superintendent or his designee is authorized to administer it:

11-401-100-590-CH- MSAN \$350.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board President, Superintendent and Board Secretary are authorized to execute and deliver any necessary contracts and reports on behalf of the Board.

4097L. Accepts State Nonpublic Auxiliary Services (Chapter 192) and Handicapped Services (Chapter 193) Aid Entitlement Funds for 2020-2021 for a total amount of \$116,082.00 allocated as follows:

<u>NP Auxiliary Services</u>	<u>Rate/Pupil</u>	<u>Pupils</u>	<u>State Aid</u>	<u>Allocation</u>
*Compensatory Education	\$995.33	60	\$35,832.00	
*E.S.L.	\$1,015.00	0	\$0.00	
*Transportation	\$0	0	\$0.00	
Total Auxiliary Services				\$38,699.00
<u>NP Handicapped Services</u>	<u>Rate/Pupil</u>	<u>Pupils</u>	<u>State Aid</u>	<u>Allocation</u>
*Initial Exam & Class.	\$1,326.17	20	\$25,993.00	
*Annual Exam & Class.	\$380.00	25	\$ 9,310.00	
*Corrective Speech	\$930.00	35	\$25,519.00	
*Supplemental Instruction	\$826.00	30	\$19,428.00	
<b>Total Handicapped Services</b>				<b>\$80,250.00</b>
<b>TOTAL 192/193 Allocation</b>				<b>\$118,949.00</b>
*Prorated at 85.00%				

4097M. Accepts a donation from the Achieve Foundation in the amount of \$19,410.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the following budget is increased and the Superintendent or his designee is authorized to administer it:

20-006-100-610	Education Foundation	\$19,410.00
----------------	----------------------	-------------

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board President, Superintendent and Board Secretary are authorized to execute and deliver any necessary contracts and reports on behalf of the Board.

4097N. WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5) authorizes contracting units to establish a Cooperative Pricing System and to enter into Cooperative Pricing Agreements for its administration; and

WHEREAS, the Mercer County Special Services Cooperative Pricing System ("MCSSSD"), hereinafter referred to as the "Lead Agency" has offered voluntary participation in a Cooperative Pricing System for the purchase of goods and services;

WHEREAS, on January 25, 2021 the governing body of the South Orange and Maplewood School District, County of Essex, State of New Jersey duly considered participation in a Cooperative Pricing System for the provision and performance of goods and services;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

TITLE

This Resolution shall be known and may be cited as the Cooperative Pricing Resolution of the South Orange and Maplewood School District.

AUTHORITY

Pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5), the Business Administrator is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency.

CONTRACTING UNIT

The Lead Agency shall be responsible for complying with the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) and all over the provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey.

This resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage.

40970. Approves the following fee schedule for services provided to the South Orange Maplewood District at a Member of the Morris Union Jointure Commission of New Providence, New Jersey, to provide the following related and specialized services for the 2020-2021 school year:

<u>Service Name</u>	<u>Member Rate 2020-2021</u>	<u>Rate Type</u>
ABA Home Program-Supervision	\$210	Hourly
ABA Home Program-Teacher	\$165	Hourly
ABA Home Program-Teacher Assistant	\$150	Hourly
ABA Home Program-Support Assistant	\$135	Hourly
Adaptive Physical Education/Hourly	\$190	Hourly
After School Assistant for Behavioral Svcs	\$50	Hourly
Personal Aide Outside School Activities	\$50	Hourly
Community-Based Instruction	\$14,210	Flat Rate
Counseling/Hourly	\$115	Hourly
In-service, full day	\$1,350	Flat Rate
In-service, half day	\$735	Flat Rate
Occupational Therapy/Daily	\$820	Flat Rate
Occupational Therapy/Hourly w/OTR	\$195	Hourly
Outreach Services 1/2 Day	\$700	Flat Rate
Outreach Services Daily	\$1,000	Flat Rate
Outreach Services Hourly	\$255	Hourly
Physical Therapy/Daily	\$900	Flat Rate
Physical Therapy/Hourly	\$215	Hourly
Speech/Language Therapy/Daily	\$920	Flat Rate
Speech/Language Therapy/Hourly	\$230	Hourly
Technology Assessment/Hourly	\$375	Hourly
Transition Assessment Workshop/Full Day	\$755	Flat Rate
Transition Assessment Workshop/Half Day	\$460	Flat Rate
Basic Transition Assessment	\$605	Flat Rate

Basic Transition Assessment (package of 3)	\$1,705	Flat Rate
Advanced Transition Assessment	\$1,635	Flat Rate
Advanced Transition Assessment (package of 3)	\$4,650	Flat Rate
Advanced & Community Assessment	\$2,215	Flat Rate
Advanced & Community Assessment (package of 3)	\$6,300	Flat Rate
Transition Program Evaluation	\$1,590	Flat Rate
<u>Job Sampling / Coaching:</u>		
TA	\$85	Hourly
Teacher	\$90	Hourly
Transition Coordinator	\$100	Hourly
Teaching Opportunities for Transitioning to Adult Life (T.O.T.A.L.) - One Time Initial Fee	\$1,060	Flat Rate
Teaching Opportunities for Transitioning to Adult Life (T.O.T.A.L.) - F.O.C.U.S. I	\$935	Flat Rate
Teaching Opportunities for Transitioning to Adult Life (T.O.T.A.L.) - Personal Reflection and Investigation	\$935	Flat Rate
Teaching Opportunities for Transitioning to Adult Life (T.O.T.A.L.) - F.O.C.U.S. II	\$1,325	Flat Rate
Teaching Opportunities for Transitioning to Adult Life (T.O.T.A.L.) - Career Craftsmanship	\$935	Flat Rate
Teaching Opportunities for Transitioning to Adult Life (T.O.T.A.L.) - Fee for updating interest inventory and ability profiler	\$265	Flat Rate

4097P. Approves the Maplewood Middle School Roberts Foundation Grant Application in the amount of \$10,000 in the category of Health and Wellness/Social-Emotional Support, and Supplemental Instruction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board President, Superintendent and Board Secretary are authorized to execute and deliver any necessary contracts and reports on behalf of the Board.

4098. Adopt the following new curriculum and new courses:

New/Revised	Department	Subject
New	STEM 9-12	Capital Markets & Investments

New Course Name	Department
Biology in Pop Culture	CHS STEM 9-12
Marketing	CHS STEM 9-12

4099. Orders the transfer or removal of the students identified below.

<u>STUDENT</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>GRADE</u>
2192133465	CHS	11th
2971726219	CHS	10 <sup>th</sup>
6552114810	CHS	9 <sup>th</sup>
9984061835	CHS	9 <sup>th</sup>
7281696392	SOMS	8 <sup>th</sup>
1434452101	SB	5 <sup>th</sup>

4100. Adopt the following policies as presented:

- Policy 1613 Disclosure and Review of Applicant’s Employment History
- Policy 1642 Earned Sick Leave Law

4101. Affirms the HIB investigations reported to the South Orange/Maplewood School District for the month of December 2020.

4102. Approves a research project by a doctoral candidate pursuing a Doctorate’s Degree from Seton Hall University. The purpose of the study is to explore the culturally responsive district-level leadership of Superintendents in the State of New Jersey who are working towards achieving educational equity.

4103. Approves the Board Committees for the 2021 Calendar year at the January 6, 2021 Reorganization Meeting (Resolution #4093);

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Education amend the Board of Education Committees for the 2021 calendar year as presented.

ROLL CALL: Motion 4094A-I, 4095A-H, 4096, 4097B-P, 4098, 4099, 4100, 4102, 4103 passed. YES: Bergin, Cuttle, Joshua, Maini, Malespina, Siders, Winkfield, Wright, Zubieta NO: None

Motion 4097A passed. YES: Bergin, Cuttle, Joshua, Maini, Siders, Winkfield, Wright, Zubieta NO: None ABSTAIN: Malespina (payments to any vendor or matter in the check

register from which Board Malespina is conflicted;  
including but not limited to Follett, Mackin, and Edmodo)

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS AND DELEGATIONS

Eileen Pizzuro

- C. The news about the lack of heat at Marshall School is very troubling. You mentioned that you are looking at the boiler and making sure the building is warm enough and that there are contingencies. What are the contingencies and what happens if it's not fixed by Wednesday.
- A. We are not able to share those contingencies because of the amount of moving parts, but we will show them at the appropriate time.

Erin Solomon

- C. Has there been any discussion on the plan for fall, regarding in-person Instruction, if teachers are vaccinated with social distancing.
- A. It is probably too far in advance for that, but we are working closely with our departments of health when planning.

Allison Deet

C. Dr. Taylor

Testing although it is not perfect is helpful and part of the Biden plan to reopen schools, testing is typically covered by insurance or is free. We can't change our old ventilation system, but shouldn't we do what we can and test. Why not?

- A. The CDC does not recommend universal testing of all students and staff and the NJ Department of Health concurs with that recommendation.

Jane Bleasdale

- C. Please remind Dr. Taylor that Board Member Cuttle uses the pronouns they/ them (Taylor referred to Cuttle twice with the incorrect pronoun tonight). I do not mean to embarrass anyone but this is an important issue. LGBTQIA+ students have long felt disenfranchised in SOMSD and this does not send a positive message. Representation matters.

Thank you

- A. Ms. Bleasdale, you are not embarrassing me, I am embarrassing myself. I sent Board Member Cuttle an apology. Thank you for bringing that to our attention. There is no excuse and I apologize.

## NEW BUSINESS

Board Member Maini opened a conversation about the February FFT meeting. The January FFT meeting was opened to some of the community and Board Member Maini expressed concern about how the Board or individual committees go about changing longstanding norms, Board governance roles, lack of notice about the public January committee meeting and the understanding of the bylaw related to this matter. Board members discussed this matter and received feedback from Board Attorney Joanne Butler on how to move forward.

### Future Meetings

The Board of Education will meet in Public Session on Monday, February 8, 2021, at 7:00 pm utilizing an online video conference platform for a Board Retreat to receive Board training on the Superintendent evaluation process, provide an update on the progress toward District goals and other matters to be announced at a later date. Action may be taken.

The Board of Education will meet in Executive Session on Monday, February 22, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. via online video conference platform to discuss personnel and legal issues, negotiations and other matters to be announced at a later date. Immediately following the Closed Session, the Board of Education will meet in public session at 7:30 p.m. using the online video conference platform. The community can view the meeting by following the steps below. Action will be taken.

Motion made by Board President Joshua, seconded by Board Member Wright, that the Board of Education will meet in Executive Session prior to the February 22, 2021 Public Meeting to discuss personnel and legal issues, negotiations and other matters, the nature of which will be made public at a future date.

MOTION made by Board President Joshua, seconded by Board Member Wright that the Board of Education adjourns. Motion unanimously approved at 11:54 p.m.

---

Paul Roth, Board Secretary